

ENGLISH TENANT - FARMERS
ON THE
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES
OF CANADA.

THE REPORTS OF

Mr. REUBEN SHELTON, The Grange Farm, Ruddington,
Nottingham;
Mr. BOOTH WADDINGTON, Bolehill Farm, Wingerworth,
Chesterfield, Derbyshire;
Mr. JOHN COOK, Birch Hill, Neen Sollars, Cleobury Mortimer,
Shropshire;
Mr. JOSEPH SMITH, 2, Mowbray Terrace, Sowerby,
Thirsk, Yorkshire,

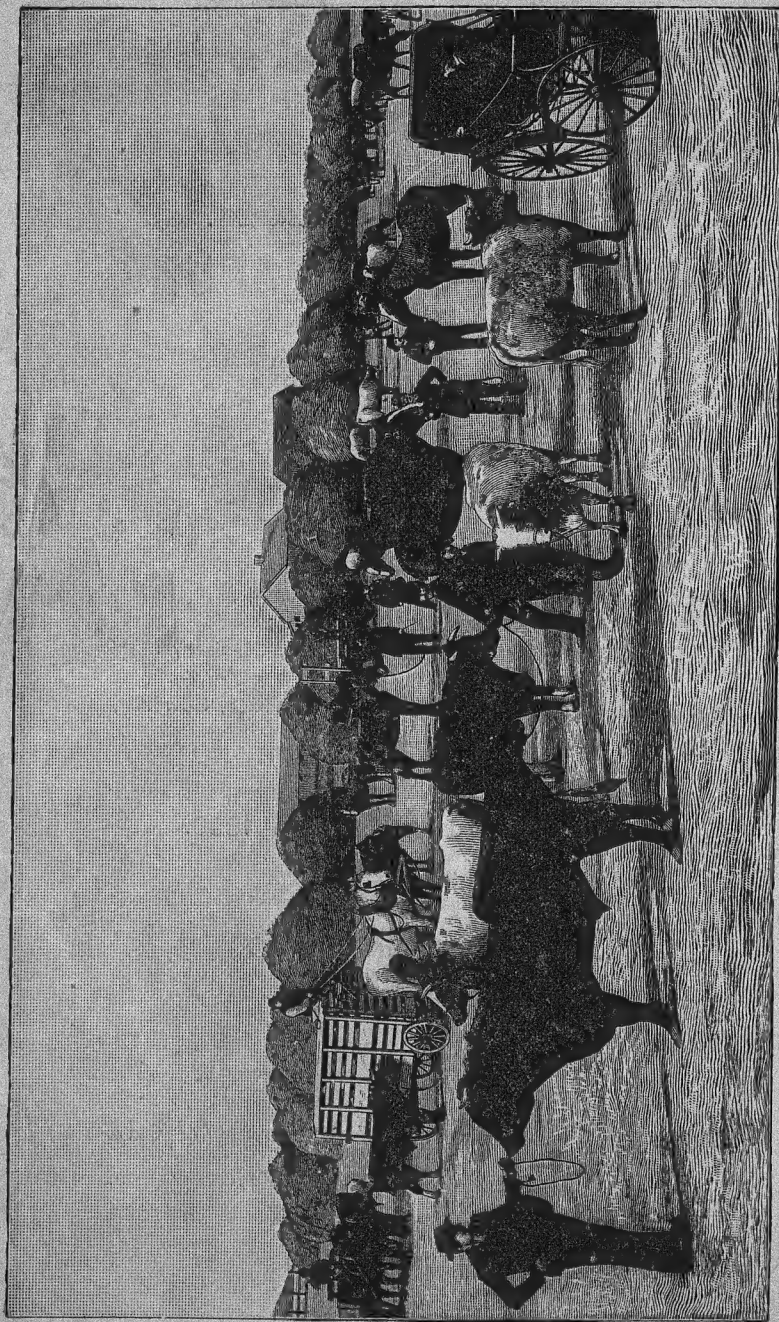
ON

Their Visit to Canada in 1893.



Published by Authority of the Government of Canada
(Department of the Interior).

FEBRUARY, 1894.



FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA—THE BERESFORD STOCK FARM.

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SHROPSHIRE;

MR. JOSEPH SMITH, 2, MOWBRAY TERRACE, SOWERBY, THIRSK, YORKSHIRE,

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PART I.

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PREFACE.

IN July, 1893, the High Commissioner for Canada, by direction of the Minister of the Interior, invited the following gentlemen (who are all connected with the agricultural industry in the different parts of the United Kingdom from which they come) to visit the Dominion of Canada, and report upon its agricultural resources, and the advantages the country offers for the settlement of farmers and farm labourers, and the other classes for which there is a great demand :—

Mr. A. J. Davies, Upper Hollings, Pensax, Tenbury, Worcestershire ; Mr. W. H. Dempster, Millbrook Lodge, Clarboston Road, South Wales ; Mr. Alexander Fraser, Balloch, Culloden, Inverness, Scotland ; Mr. R. H. Faulks, Langham, Oakham, Rutland ; Mr. J. T. Franklin, Handley, near Towcester, Northamptonshire ; Mr. J. J. Guiry, Peppardstown, Fethard, Clonmel, Ireland ; Mr. Tom Pitt, Oburnford, Cullompton, Devon ; Mr. John Roberts, Plas Heaton Farm, Trefnant, North Wales ; Mr. Reuben Shelton, Grange Farm, Ruddington, Nottinghamshire ; Mr. Joseph Smith, 2, Mowbray Terrace, Sowerby, Thirsk, Yorkshire ; Mr. John Steven, Parroch Farm, Hurlford, Ayrshire, Scotland ; Mr. Booth Waddington, Bolehill Farm, Wingerworth, Chesterfield ; and Mr. William Weeks, Cleverton Farm, Chippenham, Wiltshire.

In addition, two other farmers—Mr. John Cook, of Birch Hill, Neen Sollars, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire ; and Mr. C. E. Wright, of Brinkhill, near Spilsby, Lincolnshire—visited the Dominion, under their own auspices, during 1893 ; and they have been good enough to prepare Reports of their impressions.

The Reports, if published together, would make a bulky volume. It has therefore been decided to divide them into the following parts :—

Part 1—The Reports of Messrs. Shelton, Waddington, Cook, and Smith.

Part 2—The Reports of Messrs. Franklin, Faulks, and Wright.

Part 3—The Reports of Messrs. Weeks, Pitt, and Davies.

Part 4—The Reports of Messrs. Roberts and Dempster.

Part 5—The Reports of Messrs. Steven and Fraser.

Part 6—The Report of Mr. Guiry.

Part 1 will be circulated in the following counties :—Northumberland, Cumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, York, Lancashire, Shropshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Derby, and Nottingham.

Part 2, in Lincoln, Rutland, Leicester, Northampton, Huntingdon, Cambridge, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hertford, Bedford, Bucks, Oxford, Berks, Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and Sussex.

Part 3, in Warwick, Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall.

Part 4, in Wales ; *Part 5*, in Scotland ; and *Part 6*, in Ireland.

Any or all of these pamphlets, as well as other illustrated pamphlets issued by the Government, may be obtained, post free, by persons desiring to peruse them, on application to the Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B., High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W. ; to Mr. J. G. Colmer, C.M.G., Secretary, at the same

address; or to any of the agents of the Canadian Government in the United Kingdom, whose names and addresses are as follows:—Mr. John Dyke, 15, Water Street, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Grabame, 40, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow; Mr. E. J. Wood, 79, Hagley Road, Birmingham; Mr. P. Fleming, 44, High Street, Dundee; Mr. W. G. Stuart, Nethy Bridge, Inverness; and Mr. G. Leary, William Street, Kilkenny. Copies may also be obtained from the steamship agents, who are to be found in every village.

Land

Regulations in

various Provinces.

As the land regulations of the different Provinces are frequently referred to in the Reports, they are quoted in detail in the following paragraphs: but they are, of course, subject to alteration from time to time:—

Prince Edward Island.—The available uncultivated and vacant Government land is estimated at about 45,000 acres. These consist of forest lands of medium quality, the very best having, of course, been taken up by the tenants in the first instance, and their price averages about one dollar per acre. Parties desiring to settle upon them are allowed ten years to pay for their holdings, the purchase-money to bear interest at 5 per cent. and to be payable in ten annual instalments.

Nova Scotia.—There are now in Nova Scotia about two millions of acres of ungranted Government lands, a considerable quantity of which is barren and almost totally unfit for cultivation; but there is some land in blocks of from 200 to 500 acres of really valuable land, and some of it the best in the province, and quite accessible, being very near present settlements. The price of Crown lands is \$40 (£8 sterling) per 100 acres.

New Brunswick.—Crown lands, of which there are some 7,000,000 acres still ungranted, may be acquired as follows:—(1.) Free grants of 100 acres, by settlers over 18 years of age, on the condition of improving the land to the extent of £4 in three months; building a house 16 ft. by 20 ft., and cultivating two acres within one year; and continuous residence and cultivation of 10 acres within three years. (2.) One hundred acres are given to any settler over 18 years of age who pays £4 in cash, or does work on the public roads, &c., equal to £2 per annum for three years. Within two years a house 16 ft. by 20 ft. must be built, and two acres of land cleared. Continuous residence for three years from date of entry, and ten acres cultivated in that time, is also required. (3.) Single applications may be made for not more than 200 acres of Crown lands without conditions of settlement. These are put up to public auction at an upset price of 4s. 2d. per acre; purchase-money to be paid at once; cost of survey to be paid by purchaser.

Quebec.—About 6,000,000 acres of Crown lands have been surveyed for sale. They are to be purchased from the Government, and are paid for in the following manner:—One-fifth of the purchase-money is required to be paid the day of the sale, and the remainder in four equal yearly instalments, bearing interest at 6 per cent. The prices at which the lands are sold are merely nominal, ranging from 20 cents to 60 cents per acre (15d. to 2s. 5½d. stg.). The purchaser is required to take possession of the land sold within six months of the date of the sale, and to occupy it within two years. He must clear, in the course of ten years, ten acres for every hundred held by him, and erect a habitable house of the dimensions of at least 16 ft. by 20 ft. The letters patent are issued free of charge. The parts of the Province of Quebec now inviting colonisation are the Lake St. John District; the valleys of the Saguenay, St. Maurice, and the Ottawa Rivers; the Eastern Townships; the Lower St. Lawrence; and Gaspé.

Ontario.—Any head of a family, whether male or female, having children under 18 years of age, can obtain a grant of 200 acres; and a single man over 18 years of age, or a married man having no children under 18 residing with him, can obtain a grant of 100 acres. This land is mostly covered with forest, and is situate in the northern and north-western parts of the province. Such a person may also purchase an additional 100 acres at 50 cents per acre, cash. The settlement duties are—To have 15 acres on each grant cleared and under crop at the

end of the first five years, of which at least two acres are to be cleared annually ; to build a habitable house, at least 16 feet by 20 feet in size ; and to reside on the land at least six months in each year. In the *Rainy River* district, to the west of Lake Superior, consisting of well-watered uncleared land, free grants are made of 160 acres to a head of a family having children under 18 years of age residing with him (or her) ; and 120 acres to a single man over 18, or to a married man not having children under 18 residing with him ; each person obtaining a free grant to have the privilege of purchasing 80 acres additional, at the rate of one dollar per acre, payable in four annual instalments.

Manitoba and North-West Territories.—Free grants of one quarter-section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land, not previously entered, may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of 18 years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10. The grant of the patent is subject to the following conditions having been complied with :—

By making entry and within six months thereafter erecting a habitable house and commencing actual residence upon the land, and continuing to reside upon it for at least six months in each year for the three next succeeding years, and doing reasonable cultivation duties during that period.

Persons making entry for homesteads on or after September 1st in any year are allowed until June 1st following to perfect their entries by going into actual residence. The only charge for a homestead of 160 acres is the entrance fee of \$10. In certain cases forfeited pre-emptions and cancelled homesteads are available for entry, but slightly additional fees, and value of improvements thereon, if any, are demanded from the homesteader in each case, and when abandoned pre-emptions are taken up they are required to perform specified conditions of settlement. Full information can be obtained from the local agents. In connection with his homestead entry the settler may also purchase, subject to the approval of the Minister of the Interior, the quarter-section of the same section, if available, adjoining his homestead, at the Government price, which is at present \$3 per acre. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three years, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least 12 months subsequent to date of entry, and has cultivated 30 acres thereof.

The following diagram shows the manner in which the country is surveyed. It represents a township—that is, a tract of land six miles square, containing 36 sections of one mile square each. These sections are subdivided into quarter-sections of 160 acres each, more or less.

TOWNSHIP DIAGRAM.

1 MILE SQUARE.		640 ACRES.						N.	
		31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.		
		30.	School Lands	29.	27.	H.B. Lands	25.		
		19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.		
W.		18.	17.	16.	15.	14.	13.	E.	
		7.	H.B. Lands	8.	9.	10.	School Lands	11.	12.
		6.	5.	4.	3.	2.	1.		
		S							

The right of pre-emption has ceased to exist, having been altogether discontinued since 1st January, 1890.

Information respecting timber, mineral, coal, grazing and hay lands, may be

obtained from any of the land agents. Homesteaders in the first year of settlement are entitled to free permits to cut a specified quantity of timber for their own use only, upon payment of an office fee of 25 cents.

It must be distinctly understood that the land regulations are subject to variation from time to time. Settlers should take care to obtain from the land agent, when making their entry, an explanation of the actual regulations in force at that time, and the clause of the Act under which the entry is made endorsed upon the receipt, so that no question or difficulty may then or thereafter arise.

British Columbia.—In this province any British subject who is the head of a family, a widow, or a single man over 18 years, or an alien proposing to become a British subject, may acquire the right from the Provincial Government to pre-empt not more than 160 acres of Crown lands west of the Cascade Range, and 320 acres in the east of the province. The price is 4s. 2d. an acre, payable by four annual instalments. The conditions are—(1) Personal residence of the settler, or his family or agent; (2) improvements to be made of the value of 10s. 6d. an acre. Lands from 160 to 640 acres may also be bought at from \$1 to \$5 an acre, according to class, without conditions of residence or improvements.

The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Syndicate have not yet fully arranged the terms upon which they will dispose of their unoccupied lands. They own about 1,500,000 acres, but they are much broken up by rock and mountains.

The land belonging to the Dominion Government lies within the "Railway Belt," a tract 20 miles wide on each side of the line, which begins near the sea-board, runs through the New Westminster district, and up the Fraser Valley to Lytton; thence it runs up the Thompson River valley, past Kamloops and through Eagle Pass, across the northern part of Kootenay district to the eastern frontier of British Columbia. The country is laid out in townships in the same way as in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. The lands may be purchased at a price not less than \$5 (£1) per acre—free from settlement conditions, no sale, except in special cases, to exceed 640 acres to any one person. The lands may be "homesteaded" in certain proclaimed districts by settlers who intend to reside on them. A registration fee of \$10 (£2) is charged at the time of application. Six months is allowed in which to take possession, and at the end of three years, on proof of continuous residence of not less than six months annually and cultivation, he acquires a patent on payment of \$1 per acre for the land. In case of illness, or of necessary absence from the homestead during the three years, additional time will be granted to the settler to conform to the Government regulations. Any person after 12 months' residence on his homestead, and cultivation of 30 acres, may obtain a patent on payment of \$2.50 (10s.) per acre. These conditions apply to agricultural lands.

In addition to the free-grant lands available in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, several companies have large blocks of land which they offer for disposal at reasonable rates, from \$2.50 up to \$10 per acre. Among others, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Winnipeg) has about 14 millions of acres; and the Hudson Bay Company (Chief Commissioner, Mr. C. C. Chipman, Winnipeg) has also a considerable area. The same remark applies to the Canada North-West Land Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. W. B. Scarth, Winnipeg) and the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company; and there are several other companies, including the Land Corporation of Canada. The Alberta Coal and Railway Company also own nearly half a million acres of land in the district of Alberta. The prices of these lands vary according to position, but in most cases the terms of purchase are easy, and arranged in annual instalments, spread over a number of years. Mr. R. Seeman, c/o The Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company, Winnipeg, has purchased about 80,000 acres of land from

that railway company. He is prepared to sell the land at a reasonable rate per acre, a small sum being paid down, the remainder in annual instalments on a graduated scale. Mr. Seeman has already sold about 40,000 acres during the last year. As will be seen from some of the delegates' Reports, Lord Brassey, Senator Sanford, and others have land for sale. The Colonisation Board have also land for disposal, under favourable arrangements, particulars of which may be obtained of Mr. G. B. Borradale, Winnipeg.

In all the provinces improved farms may be purchased at reasonable prices—that is, farms on which buildings have been erected and a portion of the land cultivated.

The following are the average prices in the different provinces, the prices being regulated by the position of the farms, the nature and extent of the buildings, and contiguity to towns and railways:—Prince Edward Island, from £4 to £7 per acre; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, from £2 to £10; Ontario, from £2 to £20; Manitoba and the North-West Territories, from £1 to £10; and British Columbia, from £2 to £20. These farms become vacant for the reasons which are explained with accuracy in many of the accompanying Reports. They are most suitable for persons possessed of some means, who desire more of the social surroundings than can be obtained in those parts of the various provinces in which Government lands are still available for occupation and settlement.

Canada has already assumed an important position as an agricultural country, and the value of its exports of such products alone now nearly reaches \$50,000,000* annually, in addition to the immense quantity required for home consumption.

The principal items of farm and dairy produce exported in 1892 — the latest returns available — were: Horned cattle, \$7,748,949; horses, \$1,354,027; sheep, \$1,385,146; butter, \$1,056,058; cheese, \$11,652,412; eggs, \$1,019,798; flour, \$1,784,413; green fruit, \$1,444,883; barley, \$2,613,363; pease, \$3,450,534; wheat, \$6,949,851; potatoes, \$294,421. Besides the articles specially enumerated, a considerable export trade was done in bacon and hams, beef, lard, mutton, pork, poultry, and other meats, as well as in beans, Indian corn, oats, malt, oatmeal, flour-meal, bran, fruits, and tomatoes. The chief importers of Canadian produce at the present time are Great Britain and the United States, but an endeavour is being made, and so far with success, to extend the trade with the mother country, and to open up new markets in other parts of the world. The products of the fisheries, the mines, and the forests are also exported to a large annual value; and the manufacturing industry is a most important and increasing one, especially in the eastern provinces, and includes almost every article that can be mentioned.

It is not necessary to extend this preface or to summarise the

* The exports of these products in 1879 were only 33¼ million dollars, and the importance of the present volume of the trade may be realised when it is remembered that prices have declined, roughly, 25 per cent. in the interval.

various Reports: they must be allowed to speak for themselves. They deal with Canada as seen by practical agriculturists, and refer not only to its advantages, but to its disadvantages, for no country is without the latter in some shape or form. It may safely be said, however, that Canada has fewer drawbacks than many other parts of the world; and this is borne out by the favourable opinions that are generally expressed by the Delegation. Those who read the Reports of the farmers who visited Canada in 1879 and 1880 will realise that immense progress has been made since that time—when the vast region west of Winnipeg was only accessible by railway for a short distance, and direct communication with Eastern Canada, through British territory, was not complete. Considerable development has also taken place since 1890—when the previous Delegation visited the country.

The Canadian Government, in inviting the Delegation, wished to place, before the public, information of a reliable and independent character as to the prospects the Dominion offers for the settlement of persons desiring to engage in agricultural pursuits, and it is believed that its efforts will be as much appreciated now as they were on previous occasions. In Great Britain and Ireland the area of available land is limited, and there is a large and ever-increasing population: while at the same time Canada has only a population of about 5,000,000, and hundreds of millions of acres of the most fertile land in the world, simply waiting for people to cultivate it, capable of yielding in abundance all the products of a temperate climate for the good of mankind. It only remains to be said that any persons, of the classes to whom Canada presents so many opportunities, who decide to remove their homes to the Dominion, will receive a warm welcome in any part of the country, and will at once realise that they are not strangers in a strange land, but among fellow British subjects, with the same language, customs, and loyalty to the Sovereign, which obtain in the Old Country.

For general information about Canada, advice to intending Emigrants, and a description of the Canadian Agricultural and Dairy Exhibits at Chicago, see Appendices (pages 85 to 96).

In addition to the Reports of the Delegates referred to above, the Reports of Professor Long, the well-known Agricultural Expert, and of Professor Wallace (Professor of Agriculture and Rural Economy), of Edinburgh University—who visited Canada in 1893—are also available for distribution, and may be procured from any of the Agents of the Government.

THE REPORT OF MR. REUBEN SHELTON,

The Grange Farm, Ruddington, Nottingham.

HAVING been selected by Sir Charles Tupper, High Commissioner for Canada, as one of a party of British tenant farmers to pay a visit to the Dominion, for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon the agricultural resources of the different provinces and territories of the great North-West, I, together with several other delegates, sailed from the Alexandra Docks, Liverpool, on board the Allan Line mail steamship "Parisian," on Thursday, 17th August last.

Steaming steadily out of docks shortly after mid-day, we reached Moville, Ireland, in the early hours of the following morning, where we awaited arrival of mails and passengers; and leaving there about 2 p.m. on Friday, 18th, we, after a splendid passage, arrived at Quebec on the evening of Friday, August 25th, the time, we were informed, being within an hour or two of breaking the record.

During the voyage we were shown through the intermediate and steerage passengers' quarters, when I was very favourably impressed with the provision made for the comfort and well-being of the passengers, especially the former class, whose bill of fare and sleeping arrangements were all that could be desired, being apparently but little inferior to those of the cabin passengers.

Darkness setting in shortly after our arrival at Quebec, and a severe thunderstorm raging at the time, we were reluctantly compelled to abandon our intention of taking a run round the city, especially as the vessel lay to on the opposite side of the river, at Port Levis.

The whole outlook after daybreak the following morning, as we continued our course up the beautiful St. Lawrence.

Lawrence River, was one of such exquisite beauty as I have never before witnessed, and far beyond my abilities to describe. To travel on board ship right through the estuary of the St. Lawrence, and then up the river in such beautiful weather as we were then enjoying, and to behold the varied and attractive scenery which everywhere presented itself from either shore, I felt was enough to repay one for any expense or inconvenience necessarily consequent upon leaving home and business for a rather long period. The river smooth as glass,—the air, though hot, yet fresh, clear, and exhilarating,—the ship riding so steadily as to make it difficult to tell she was moving,—here hills sloping to the river, covered, or partially so, with young trees of various hues,—next a flat of cultivated land, principally consisting of corn crops, some cut and in stook, and some awaiting its turn to be similarly treated; with here and there, dotted about at intervals varying from a few yards to a few hundreds, neat-looking cottages built of wood, and with coverings of almost endless variety, showing unmistakeably that the occupations are generally very small, owned and occupied, I was told, principally by French Canadians,—then a quaint little village would come into view, with its dwellings of greater or less pretensions, and with its pretty church—all contributing their quota to the apparently almost endless scene of exquisite beauty.

The good ship landed us at Montreal about 1.30 p.m. on *Montreal*. Saturday, August 26th. After successfully passing the examination of the Customs officers, we proceeded to the St. Lawrence Hall Hotel, where, having registered and left our luggage, we at once proceeded to do the sights of this, the greatest city of the Dominion. Montreal has a population of about a quarter of a million, 64 per cent. being of French extraction. No expense has been spared to make the city attractive. It is lighted by electricity, and has a very complete service of tram-cars, which are driven by electricity, about 50 miles of lines being already in use. The public buildings are on a scale not often excelled, and there are about 140 churches of all denominations, as well as a Roman Catholic cathedral, which, it is said, has had four million dollars expended upon it, and is now awaiting completion for want of funds. Roman Catholics and Presbyterians take the lead, and apparently vie with each other as to the size and splendour of their edifices, though the Church of England has a splendid cathedral.

We left Montreal on Monday, August 28th, for Ottawa, having letters of introduction to the Minister of the Interior. During this run of 120 miles on the Canadian Pacific Railway, I saw nothing very prepossessing from a farming point of view. The land was of poor quality and indifferently farmed. The crops were light and full of weeds, with here and there pleasing exceptions. Cattle were scarce, and those seen were mostly undersized, meanly bred milch cows.

Ottawa. Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion, has a population of close upon 50,000, and is rather picturesquely situated at the junction of the Rideau and Ottawa Rivers. There are numerous fine residences, hotels, &c., all of which are overshadowed by the stately Houses of Parliament and other Government buildings. There is here, also, a very full service of tram-cars, which, like Montreal, are driven—as well as the streets and the more important buildings being illuminated—by electricity; but I felt surprised when I noticed that the roadways, even in the principal thoroughfares, are generally in anything but a good condition, many being yet unpaved and apparently in almost a primitive state. The principal industry of the city appears to be the lumber trade, although there are a number of other industries, such as paper manufactories, match manufactories, &c., several of which we visited with much interest. Vast quantities of logs are floated down the Ottawa River and its tributaries, and are here sawn into lumber—a term which in Canada seems to be applied to all kinds of converted timber.

The delegates paid a visit to the Central Government *Experimental Farm*, just beyond the suburbs of the city. The farm consists of 460 acres of mixed land.

Besides the almost endless experiments which are made in the growing of the various farm products, as well as in the breeding and feeding of all kinds of live farm stock, there is a large laboratory for testing the germinating powers of all kinds of seeds, seed corn, &c., also for analysing cattle foods, manures, &c., which is done free of cost to any farmer who cares to avail him-

self of the opportunity thus afforded. In all 1,979 samples were sent in for analysis during last year. An important part of the work



EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

is to furnish, gratis and post free, samples of 3 lbs. each of seed wheat, barley, oats, peas, and maize to any farmer who will take the trouble to write for them; over 28,000 packages being thus sent out last year, all from stock seed, the greater part being grown on the experimental farm. The farmers who receive and sow these samples are requested to give information on the following points, viz.:—(1) What is the character of the soil in which this grain has been sown? (2) How was the soil prepared? (3) Give size of plot. (4) How sown—broadcast or in drills? (5) Date of sowing. (6) Date of ripening. (7) Total weight of grain harvested. (8) Have you observed any rust? (9) Any smut? (10) What is the character of the straw? (11) How does the grain compare with other sorts as to earliness of ripening and weight of crop? (12) Remarks.

The crops, so far as we were able to see them, looked exceedingly well, but it was a source of disappointment that we were unable to get over the greater portion of the farm, owing to the wretched state of the weather; it having at the time of our visit been raining almost in torrents for 16 or 18 hours. Some of the crops were standing in water. We saw a crop of maize much of which stood fully 12 ft. high, and which was to be made into ensilage. We were also shown a plot of tobacco, consisting of 28 different varieties, growing in rows 3 ft. apart, standing from 3 to 4 ft. high, with a profusion of broad leaf spreading

out from a strong stem ; the stem, I was told, being useless except for fumigating purposes.

The live stock consists of pedigree Shorthorns, Jerseys, Ayrshires, Holsteins, and French-Canadians ; pigs—pedigree Berkshires, Tamworth, Improved Yorkshire, Essex, and Poland-China ; horses—pure-bred Clydesdale, Suffolk Punch, and French Canadian. Pedigree fowls are also extensively kept, there being 14 distinct varieties.

The out-offices and buildings in general are strongly built of wood, and are very commodious. The hay and corn shed is nearly 150 ft. long, 54 ft. wide, and over 40 ft. to the eaves, with 14 loose boxes and shedding for 54 stalled beasts underneath.

Dairying is carried on upon most improved principles, cream-separating, churning, and butter-working all being done by steam power. I consider this farm one of the most interesting and instructive sights of our visit.

Leaving Ottawa on the morning of August 30th, we travelled by Canadian Pacific Railway to Winnipeg, the journey occupying 52½ hours, the distance being 1,304 miles. The scenery at times was very charming, many places of note being passed. Lake Superior, winding in and out round numerous little islands, is a most effective spectacle, extending for many miles, now in, now out of view from the train. Still, the outlook for some hundreds of miles was extremely monotonous—one vast forest, rugged and undulating, chiefly of fir trees. The timber had the appearance of lacking a sufficiency of suitable substance for healthy growth upon the rocky foundation which everywhere prevails. Here and there might be seen stretches of forest destroyed by fire, little more than the charred stumps of trees remaining.

On reaching Winnipeg we were met by Mr. G. J. Cox, a gentleman who had been deputed to act as guide to our contingent of delegates throughout our tour through the provinces and territories of the North-West ; his knowledge of the country, acquired through the medium of his office as Crown Lands Inspector, thoroughly fitted him to pilot us right along with marked ability and efficiency. We were driven to the Manitoba Hotel, a building which is a fair specimen of Canadian enterprise. Although the population does not exceed 30,000, this edifice is eight stories high, and has over 700 bedrooms. In the principal streets of the city there are numerous fine buildings, while the main thoroughfares are 132 ft. wide, and have four sets of tram lines, the cars upon two of which are driven by electricity, and two by horse power.

During the afternoon we were driven out to Sir *Silver Heights*. Donald Smith's farm at Silver Heights, Mr. Fisher,

M.P.P. for Russell County, Manitoba, joining the party. On the farm itself there is little worthy of special note. Our primary object was to see a herd of buffaloes, nine in number, said to be the last surviving in British North America. These have been preserved and partially domesticated by Sir Donald Smith. Although very formidable-looking animals, especially two large males, they were quietly grazing in a field with some cows. On the way to the farm we were shown some splendid crops of vegetables, &c., market gardening being a speciality near the city. The land, a black loam upon a clay

subsoil, is very productive, tomatoes and cucumbers growing in the open. Cabbages, cauliflowers, onions, carrots, parsnips, &c., of fine size and quality were also observed.



WINNIPEG.

Portage-la-Prairie. On Saturday morning, September 2nd, we left Winnipeg and proceeded to Portage-la-Prairie, a town of 4,200 inhabitants, noted for its flouring mills and grain elevators, and one of the principal grain markets in Manitoba. It is situated 56 miles north-west from Winnipeg. Arriving there about mid-day, we were in the afternoon driven over a portion of the great wheat-growing plains of the Portage, where we visited several farmsteads. These plains extend for many miles, and are enclosed in one mile square sections (640 acres), fenced round by posts and barb wire, and have a roadway 99 feet wide running along each outside. Six miles square, or 36 of these sections, form a township. Some sections are in the occupation of one man, while others are divided into half- or quarter-sections, as the case may be.

One of these half-sections is occupied by a Mr. *Brydon's Farm.* Brydon, and may be taken as typical of many others. We were fortunate in meeting with this gentleman at home, as he was not only able, but very willing to give us what information he could. He emigrated from Scotland when young, took up a quarter-section from Government 18 years ago, and bought an adjoining quarter shortly afterwards. He got along with his wheat-growing mostly with great success, while prices were higher and the land full of virgin fertility, but declared he could not produce wheat at present prices to pay; his figures showing an expenditure upon seed and labour alone of 40 cents (1s. 8d.) per bushel upon last year's crop, and the prices realised for the whole production being from 56 cents (2s. 4d.) down to 40 cents (1s. 8d.) per bushel. He does a little mixed farming, having 10 or 12 milch beasts and a few young stores; also a number of well-bred, but not pedigree.

Berkshire pigs. All are well fed and cared for, the milch beasts being given a liberal feed of mixed meals at the time of our visit, in addition to running out on a full pasture of prairie grass. Butter makes 20 cents (10d.) to 25 cents (1s.), and sometimes up to 30 cents (1s. 3d.) per lb. Calves are reared upon skim-milk. Pigs are fattened, and make from 6 cents to 7 cents (3d. to 3½d.) per lb., dressed weight, in local market. Two-year old heifers have been sold on the farm for \$40 (£8) each, as beef. Mr. Brydon stated that he began farming without any capital, and considers himself now worth upwards of \$20,000 (£4,000).

It is a matter of surprise to me that such men do *Mixed Farming*. not turn their attention more thoroughly to mixed farming. In North Central Manitoba we came across numbers of farmers, many of whom were evidently possessed of both intelligence and means, who devote their almost undivided attention to the production of wheat, to the almost entire neglect of all other branches of farming. Wheat-growing alone may be a nice, easy system to follow, and had perhaps much to recommend it a few years ago, when prices were comparatively high and Manitoba land generally but freshly broken, and, consequently, full of virgin fertility; but under present conditions, with Canadian wheat selling at but little over 40 cents (1s. 8d.) per bushel, and a considerable portion of Manitoba land showing signs of wanting "farming," it is, in my opinion, most essential to their future success that many of these farmers should make a change in their system in the direction I have indicated.

From one point of view during our drive nothing practically could be seen for miles in any direction except one unbroken flat of stooks. Such a sight I never could have imagined—the plains as flat and level almost as a billiard table; crops very good; with a clear brightness of straw and stubble which can but seldom be seen at home.

Along the Manitoba and North-Western Line. Spending Sunday at Portage, we on the Monday morning were shown through the flouring mill belonging to the Lake of the Woods Milling Company. This mill, built

ten years ago, and entirely refitted last year with the most modern and improved machinery, has a milling capacity of 700 barrels a day, with storage room for 180,000 bushels of wheat. We afterwards left Portage-la-Prairie for Westbourne, being driven through another district of the great wheat-growing plains, to the north-westward, a distance of over 20 miles. Crops here, almost without exception, were very fine. Cutting was practically finished, though on one farm we called at, three self-binders were chasing each other round a large field of oats, which, however, were the last to cut on this large farm. A considerable quantity had been carted, scores of round stacks standing in blocks of four each at intervals all along these vast plains, awaiting a visit from the threshing machine, after which the straw would speedily be reduced to ashes. Threshing was in many instances already being proceeded with, principally direct from the stook to the machine.

Reaching Westbourne in the evening, we were shown *Westbourne*, through the herd of about 50 pure-bred Shorthorn beasts belonging to Mr. Lynch, among which were some splendid specimens, notably a fine three-year-old stock bull, "Village Hero," a half-brother (same dam) of the champion Shorthorn at the Chicago World's Fair. Mr. Lynch commenced life in a very humble position, and is deserving of all praise for his enterprise and energy. He has without doubt done much to improve the general standard of quality of the cattle, both in his own and other districts. He rears all he can; runs the calves with their dams, and sells his young bulls as yearlings, prices varying generally from \$100 (£20) to \$150 (£30) each.

Spending the night at Westbourne, where practically *The* commences a district of mixed farming and cattle-raising, *Sanford* along the line of the Manitoba and North-Western *Ranch.* Railway system, we went over a portion of the Sanford Ranch, and were kindly given some interesting information by Mr. Davy, the manager. The ranch is 7,000 acres in extent, including 150 acres cultivated land, mostly corn. There are about 300 beasts of various breeds and ages; 200 horses, chiefly Hackney or general purpose class; and about 50 pigs of the Berkshire, Improved Yorkshire, and Tamworth varieties. Beasts are bred and reared; steers sold as stores at three years old, at 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb., live weight, to dealers who visit the ranch to buy them for exportation to the British markets. At least, this was the system pursued while the British ports were open, their being closed causing a very sore place in the minds of stock-raising Canadians. About 60 horses are annually bred, and sold at four years old, after breaking, making on an average about £60 a pair. Pedigree sires are kept, there being two fine animals at the time of our visit—one a Yorkshire coach horse, and the other a hackney. Pigs are bred; but this is rather a new departure, only being started last year; the few already fattened have been sold at from 3d. to 3½d. per lb., carcass weight, at home. We were here shown some splendidly grown vegetables, also a piece of lucerne which was very good. Mr. Davy evidently being a man of great experience, it may not be out of place to say that he is convinced "that farming in Manitoba must ere long undergo a great change to make it fairly successful. The land must be farmed on a more mixed principle, and in much smaller holdings, as farmers generally are of a class who are too short of capital to work such large farms to the best advantage. To grow beef, mutton, pork, dairy produce, &c., would pay infinitely better, and be much better farming, than trying to produce wheat at present and prospective ruinous prices."

Our next halting-place was Neepawa, 44 miles north-west from Westbourne. *Neepawa.* During our two days' stay there we visited a number of farms in the neighbourhood, and found the crops fairly good generally, much of the land here again being devoted to wheat-growing. One of these farms, occupied by a Mr. Munro, appeared to me to be of special interest.

Mr. Munro came from the United States only four years ago, and purchased first half, then the remainder of a section. We found him busy stacking wheat in the fields—a beautiful crop. He has several sons growing up, all who are able helping to the best of their ability with the harvest. One, quite a young boy, was himself managing a self-binding reaper, drawn by three horses abreast. Mr. Munro speaks in praise of Manitoba—thinks it one of the finest places in the world for a hard-working farmer—and intends to go more thoroughly into horse and cattle breeding as circumstances permit. He has already made a successful start in the former direction, having purchased and imported a pedigree Shire entire colt, “Grove Ring-leader,” and two Shire mares, “Headon Flora” and “Jessica,” from gentlemen well known in North Notts—rather interesting to me as the Notts delegate. The horse and one of the mares were quietly working side by side in a harvest dray, while the other mare, “Jessica,” was running with a fine colt foal. As a Nottingham man I wish Mr. Munro every success in his venture.

Another farm we visited in this district was that belonging to Mr. Joseph Laidlair, of which, being fairly representative, a few particulars may be of interest. Mr. Laidlair emigrated from Scotland 15 years ago, and, with a capital of \$25 (£5), took up a homestead of 160 acres, and later on purchased an adjoining quarter-section of 160 acres. He has gone in strongly for wheat-growing, but is convinced that at present prices mixed farming will pay best. He has 6 horses, 15 beasts, and from 35 to 40 pigs on the farm. He has been successful, and considers himself now worth about £1,200.

We left Neepawa early on Thursday, September 7th, driving by a circuitous route a distance of 26 miles to Minnedosa. *En route* we came by Bridge Creek and Franklin districts, a country of an undulating and wooded character, north-west from Neepawa, best suited for mixed farming. In the afternoon we were driven out a distance of 10 miles to the north of Minnedosa, where we came across a tract of land upon which the grain crops had been, some wholly and some partially, destroyed by a hailstorm which occurred on July 28th. Its disastrous effects were plainly visible to ourselves, some of the corn being left uncut and quite worthless.

Leaving Minnedosa, we next visited Russell, a small town in the midst of a district of grazing and mixed farming in North-Western Manitoba. We travelled by the Manitoba and North-Western Railway a distance of 86 miles to Binscarth Station, thence by road 12 or 13 miles to Russell, where we spent Sunday. On the Monday we had rather a big day's driving—19 miles in a south-western direction in the forenoon, where we visited several farms, with very satisfactory results; and in the afternoon as far as Asessipi, a fine grazing district 18 miles north of Russell. On one farm, belonging to a Mr. J. Smith, we were shown a very fine herd of grazing beasts, which contained some really splendid specimens. Two very ripe four-year-old steers looked like weighing at least 80 stones of 14 lbs. each, dressed weight ;

yet we were informed they had received nothing in addition to prairie grazing in summer, and but little beyond prairie hay in winter.

Among other farms we visited, it may be of interest to mention *Dr. Barnardo's Industrial Farm*, situate about three miles out of Russell. This farm, no doubt it is well known, is carried on in connection

with *Dr. Barnardo's Homes*, from which a number of lads are brought out each year, and are carefully instructed in practical farming in all its branches. After a year of this training they are placed in situations, and so make room for others. They are mostly placed with farmers, where, labour being scarce and very high, they have an opportunity of soon being in a position to take up homesteads, and themselves become farmers upon their own farms. We were very kindly shown over the Home, dairy, farm buildings, and a portion of the great farm, by the manager, Mr. Struthers. The estate really consists of 9,000 acres, only 600 being as yet under cultivation—100 acres in wheat, and about equal proportions of barley, oats, rye, and roots. There is a herd of 50 milch beasts, and about 250 others of various breeds and ages; 160 sheep, 45 pigs, and 24 horses of various kinds. The farm is thoroughly equipped and well managed, showing a degree of neatness far superior to any farm I saw in Canada, excepting, of course, the Government Experimental Farms. The crops were good, especially a piece of kohlrabi. The lads do nearly the whole of the manual labour, under efficient supervision. Several of them at the time of our visit were engaged in wheat-leading with several pairs of oxen in drays. They were building the stacks in a style of neatness worthy of imitation by the average go-ahead Canadian farmer, whose chief aim appears to be to attain speed. The lads appeared cheerful and well pleased with their position—as well they may, when one thinks of what might have been their lot if left, uncared for, to roam the streets of our large towns and cities.

During a long drive through a district chiefly devoted to grazing, to the east of Russell, we inspected several herds of well-bred beasts, principally of the Shorthorn class, which afforded evidence of the nutritious quality of the natural prairie grasses, many of the animals being in splendid condition and of great weights. It was, indeed, quite a treat, after the almost interminable wheat-growing we had been accustomed to seeing in some other districts, to go over a farm like one belonging to a Mr. Henry Smith, situate about six miles east of Russell, upon which we saw a herd of 75 as useful-looking Shorthorn beasts as one could wish to see, varying in age from five- or six-year-old cows down to calves sucking their dams. Mr. Smith's system of farming is, briefly, as follows:—He breeds and rears all his beasts, taking care to use only pure-bred sires, and lets the calves run with their dams till of a good age. None are housed in winter except newly calved cows and their calves, but are run out and liberally fed with prairie hay or oat straw. Upon our expressing surprise at his doing this in so cold a climate, Mr. Smith replied that he found no difficulty about it, for the beasts had plenty of shade among the

timber, invariably did well throughout the winter, and were much better to graze during the following summer than winter-housed animals. He sells his steers, and what heifers are not kept for breeding purposes, as beef, at from two to three years old, the average price obtained being about \$40 (£8) each. The farm consists of 320 acres, 80 being under cultivation, the remainder all grazed. Mr. Smith purchases right to mow and obtain fodder from adjoining farmers, about 100 tons a year being thus obtained at an almost nominal cost. He and a man or lad do all the labour except harvesting. His expenses being so very low, it is not at all difficult to understand that his system of farming is a successful one. Mr. Smith emigrated from Oxfordshire, where he had been in farm service, about 10 years ago. After working for different farmers in this neighbourhood for two years, and having saved a little capital, he took up a homestead of 160 acres, and has since purchased another 160.

We left Russell on Wednesday morning, September 13th, *Carberry*, returning over 100 miles south-east to Neepawa, so as to strike the most convenient route to reach the Canadian Pacific Railway, which we did by driving over 30 miles across country to Carberry, a small town of 1,100 inhabitants, with its rather pretentious flouring mill and very extensive granaries. Here we stayed till the following evening. During the day we were driven out some 20 miles north-west over a district which, to my mind, for quality and productiveness of land was quite equal to anything we had yet seen. The land is chiefly of a fine black and rather sandy loam, upon a tenacious subsoil of white clay or marl. Crops of all kinds were almost invariably good; the few roots grown, consisting of mangolds, swedes, and common turnips, being especially so.

Our next halting-place was Brandon, a town of 4,500 inhabitants, situate 27 miles further west, said to be the largest grain market in Manitoba, and having a large flouring mill and five large granaries. Here is situated another of the Government Experimental Farms, to which the delegates paid a visit of inspection, as well as to several other farms in the same district. We were conducted over the experimental farm by Mr. Bedford, the superintendent, who showed us the results of various experiments in the growth of native and other grasses, corn, fruit trees, &c. Special attention has been given to the growth of the various native grasses, it having been found that few foreign grasses or clovers can withstand the severity of the Canadian climate; the only variety which appears to really thrive, and has stood the test of time, being timothy grass; and this, Mr. Bedford informed us, generally fails after the third year's growth, and sometimes earlier. This circumstance I consider rather a drawback to successful farming, especially as grazing prairie grass gives one the idea of not being able to carry a heavy quantity of stock per acre; but Mr. Bedford is hopeful that with perseverance this difficulty will eventually be overcome, as, in addition to what can be done in bringing the better classes of native grasses to the front, a variety of Austrian grass—a fine sample of which we were shown—gives great promise of success. In

looking through the stock I noticed some fine sires of the following pedigree breeds:—Shorthorn, Galloway, Ayrshire, and Holstein—which here, in common with the other experimental farms, of which there are five in different parts of the Dominion, are kept for service at nominal fees for the benefit of surrounding farmers. Such a provision alone, on the part of any Government, is worthy of all praise, as it must evidently be of incalculable benefit in propagating improved breeds of stock throughout the Dominion.



GRAIN ELEVATOR, BRANDON.

Of the quality and productiveness of the land in this district also, there can be no question; the crops on this farm especially, under thoroughly good farm management, being truly fine, as the following yields of this year's crop, as given to us, will show:—Banner oats, sown May 12th, harvested August 27th, yielded 82 bushels per acre; Triumph White oats, 75 bushels; and barleys, from 40 to 65 bushels—the latter high figure being reached by the variety called Goldthorpe. From one point of view, a few miles north of the town, I counted 176 stacks, nearly the whole being wheat, and probably containing some five acres each. This will give a faint idea of the extent to which wheat-growing is carried on in Manitoba, where we spent over a fortnight pursuing our investigations, and were then only able to get over a portion of the north, central, and north-western districts. It may be interesting news to some people to hear that, although Manitoba is one of the smallest of the western provinces of Canada, it has an area nearly equal to England, Ireland, and Scotland put

together. Its total area is 74,000,000 acres, much of which practically has been taken up for some years past; the only exception, I was informed, being a few thousand acres to the north of Assiniboia, between the Shell River and the Assiniboine, said to be best suited for grazing or mixed farming. Still, useful farms are always for sale, belonging to speculators and others, at low prices, varying from 10s. to £4 per acre, according to quality, condition, situation, &c. Some such farms probably are cheaper to men with a little capital than the present system of homesteading.

Leaving Brandon—where, by the way, it was necessary to put back our watches one hour, as from here westward time changes from standard to Mountain time, which, with one hour already put back at Fort William, 559 miles east of here, brought us now $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours behind

English time—we proceeded by Canadian Pacific Railway to Indian Head, 181 miles further on our tour through the Territories, crossing the dividing line between Manitoba and Assiniboia on our journey. During our day's stay here we drove over several farms, including another of the Government Experimental ones, which we found conducted on similar lines to those I have already mentioned—everything neat and trim, and the crops of such a character as to prove to my mind what many thousand acres of other land in their respective districts could be made to produce under proper cultivation—which much of it decidedly lacks. On one or two other farms in this neighbourhood we saw some splendid samples of wheat, promising heavy yields; the stubbles being full, strong, and exceedingly clean. I was much interested here, as we were introduced to a rather unique system of cultivation; one farmer especially being strongly impressed with the necessity of fallowing his land every third or fourth year, and then in the spring following his first wheat crop after fallow, burning the stubble, and drilling in another crop of wheat with a press drill, without ploughing; and so on until he considered another fallow necessary. He affirmed that by this system he can grow much better yields, and of finer quality, than by continuous ploughing and cropping for a great number of years consecutively. His fine crops certainly tend to bear out his contention, and strengthen my conviction—already formed—that even Canadian virgin soil cannot stand the strain of consecutive wheat-growing for an unlimited number of years without either change of cropping or rest. There is much land in the market near Indian Head, within easy distance of the railway, of evidently fine productive quality, at from 10s. to £2 per acre.

The next place on our programme was the busy little town of Qu'Appelle, situate a few miles further west, on the main line. From here we drove by a circuitous route some 28 miles north to Fort Qu'Appelle. We visited several farms on our way, over a district undulating and of various qualities of land, a good deal of which is either for sale at nominal prices or ready for homesteading. The district immediately around Fort Qu'Appelle itself is a very fine one for mixed farming, and is noted for its beautiful scenery—its fishing lakes, and fine rolling hills sloping down to them. We stayed there

through the night, returning to Qu'Appelle by another route on the following day, 20th September, and from thence to Regina the same



THE HYDE FARM, ON THE QU'APPELLE RIVER.

evening by train. While at Fort Qu'Appelle we visited the Government Industrial School for native Indian children, and I was much impressed with all I saw there. A large number of poor coloured children from the Indian reserves (some of which are in the neighbourhood of Fort Qu'Appelle, and one of which we visited) are here provided with a comfortable home, taught the English language, and educated up to the fourth standard of the English code. Afterwards the girls are taught all kinds of household duties, and fitted for situations as domestic servants. The boys learned various trades, such as masons, carpenters, or shoemaking, or, if preferred, are taught farm work, a small farm being carried on in connection with the school. The younger girls were asked to sing and read to us, and give exhibitions of their writing and figuring abilities—all being done in a most efficient manner, very pleasant to witness.

During our stay at Regina we drove over a large area of the surrounding district, but I was not so favourably impressed with it as with other places I had seen, especially in the immediate neighbourhood of the city, which stands on an extensive plain of mostly uncultivated land, of a rather strong and very adhesive character. For many miles, in any direction, not a single tree or growing timber of any kind can be seen. Although the capital of the great North-West Territories, the population only reaches

some 2,200, including a large staff of officers and men of the North-West Mounted Police Force, Regina being their headquarters. This force is a semi-military organisation numbering 1,000 men, who are stationed at intervals over the North-West to look after the Indians and preserve order generally. We were shown over the barracks, where we saw the spot where Riel, the leader of the half-breed rebellion, was executed in 1885. The weather while we were at Regina, and for a few days afterwards, was bitterly cold—sharp night frosts, and dry, cutting winds by day—one of our most comfortable experiences for some days being the inside of a Pullman car, during our journey of 247 miles north to Prince Albert, where we arrived on a Saturday morning.

Prince Albert. Prince Albert is a very pleasantly situated town of 1,400 inhabitants, scattered over two or three miles along the southern bank of the North Saskatchewan River. A rather considerable proportion of the inhabitants are half-breeds, many of them, both men and women, being finely built, intelligent people. During our four days' stay there we took most extensive drives—first some 15 miles in a southern direction, through a really fine district of principally unbroken land, nicely undulating, well timbered, and well watered; and afterwards in a more easterly direction, where we spent a night at the house of a half-breed farmer, named Harper, returning on the following day by, as far as practicable, another route. The district traversed during this drive is without doubt one of the finest for ranching or mixed farming of any I visited in Canada. The whole expanse, which gives one the idea of its extent being practically unlimited, is apparently one rich, rolling prairie, consisting of timber, scrub, and both grazing and meadow prairie grass of fine growth and quality. The greater portion of this land is still unsettled, and ready for homesteading or purchase at nominal prices. With better railway facilities—which, I understand, are under contemplation—this district is bound to become a very important and eminently productive agricultural one. Upon the little land already under cultivation I noticed some fine crops of wheat, oats, roots, vegetables, &c.; in one instance three Early Rose potatoes which were shown us weighed 10 lbs.

Before leaving Prince Albert, on the evening of Wednesday, September 27th, the delegates were entertained to luncheon by the Mayor and leading gentlemen of the town, with whom we spent a most enjoyable hour or two. Several gentlemen made very interesting speeches, which not only showed their loyalty to their "great and free country," but to their especial district—a trait of Canadian character readily observable wherever we had been, it having become a bye-word among the delegates that "this is the very spot for intending settlers; right down here." But in justice to these gentlemen it should be said that they certainly had strong claims upon our notice, the district of Prince Albert being, as I have before stated, in my opinion, one of the finest we visited.

Reaching Regina on our return to the Canadian Pacific Railway main line, we, on the following evening, boarded the West-bound train for Vancouver, British Columbia. Looking out of the Pullman next morning

shortly after daybreak, the same treeless, bleak, barren-looking plain, which will ever associate itself in my mind with the name of Regina, presented itself, and continued till we had left Regina some 400 miles behind. For the last 100 miles before reaching the Rocky Mountains the district presented a much more interesting appearance—some bluffs of timber, and here and there pieces of useful-looking cultivated land; but more generally grazing prairie, upon which was to be seen some large herds of cattle. Upon passing one of these herds, my attention was called to three wolves which were quietly trotting about among the beasts; their intention being, I was told, to endeavour to drive away some unsuspecting calf from the herd, then worry it and run off with the carcass.

As we approached the "Rockies" an observation car was attached to the train—that is, a large car open along both sides, specially designed to allow an unbroken view of the wonderful mountain scenery. To attempt to describe this scenery would, I feel, be nothing less than presumption on my part. These mountains reached about 500 miles either side of us on our journey; many of them of such dimensions and of such an altitude as to fairly strike one with feelings of awe, as well as admiration and amazement. Many of the higher ones had their summits enveloped in the clouds, while others of still greater altitude peered right through the clouds, and in the distance—with their rugged tops thickly capped with snow, which a summer's sunshine and heat had been powerless to remove—looked like huge icebergs. The train for some hundreds of miles wound its way by the course of a river or rivers, running nearly always on the base of the mountains, sometimes only a few feet, and sometimes a great many feet above the edge of the water, and often made such sudden and sharp turns as to make its progress appear decidedly unsafe, although at such times it was driven very steadily. It is said that in passing through these mountains "the railway leads at different and many times towards every one of the 32 points of the compass."

As we emerged from this glorious mountain district and approached Vancouver, it was at once noticeable that we were in a country of a different climate; the apple, pear, and plum trees, the thorn, and the herbage in the fresh-looking pastures—all conspicuous by their absence in Manitoba and the Territories—at once proclaiming the fact. The climate of British Columbia is said to resemble that of England, but with a greater average rainfall. We reached Vancouver on Saturday evening, September 30th, the journey from Regina having taken a little over 48 hours, the distance being 1,125 miles. Although this city was, with the exception of one solitary house, totally destroyed by fire so recently as 1886, it is now about the best built and prettiest place we visited, with a population of about 18,000. It fronts on Coal Harbour, a widening of Burrard Inlet, and extends across a strip of land to English Bay, along the shore of which it is now reaching out. Streets are wide, and the principal ones asphalted. It is lighted by electricity, and has its service of electric tram-cars.

Accompanied by the Mayor, we took tram to New Westminister, a town some 12 miles out, noted for its salmon-canning industry; thence down the Fraser River to Ladner's Landing, from whence we were driven out in the direction of Boundary Bay, over a country of fine agricul-



VANCOUVER.

tural land, principally of mixed farming. We were shown through one of the fish cannery establishments, when I was much struck with the dexterity shown by the Chinese workmen in labelling and packing cans, &c.

We left the city of Vancouver on Tuesday afternoon, October 3rd, by steamer across the Straits of Georgia, for Victoria, Vancouver Island, where we arrived shortly before midnight. On the following day we drove out, by a circuitous route, accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Beaven, Mayor of Victoria, to the Saanich district, a distance of some 30 miles, during which we visited several farmsteads. One of these, occupied by a Mr. H. King, is a mixed farm of 250 acres, including some uncleared land, held at a rental of \$600 (£120) a year, situate 2½ miles from the capital city. Mr. King keeps a herd of 25 dairy beasts of various breeds, sending his milk in to Victoria, where he obtains 30 cents (1s. 3d.) per imperial gallon, average price, delivered in quantities of not less than one gallon. He pays for white labour \$30 (£6) a month, and all found, for good able men; and \$1.10 (4s. 6d.) a day, clear, to Chinamen, two of whom we saw working away digging up potatoes of fine

quality. Crops, both corn and roots, were good; but it was rather discouraging to see most of the former still in stook, especially as the weather had recently been very wet, and was then of a very unsettled character. Prices of farm produce and some other commodities appeared to be very similar in the island to those prevailing in England; Mr. King telling us he can make 90 cents (3s. 9d.) per bushel of good samples of wheat, and 45 cents (1s. 11d.) for oats, and pays \$40 (£8) a ton for his linseed cakes, and \$24 (£4 16s.) for bran, both of which he feeds liberally to his cows.

Here, as elsewhere during this drive, we saw some splendid crops of fruit, principally apples and plums. They were still hanging on the fine-grown young trees, many of the later varieties not yet being ripe. The bulk of the land for miles around here is thickly covered with timber, the finest grown cedars and Douglas pines everywhere abounding, many of almost incredible height and dimensions. It is said these conditions prevail more or less throughout the island. If so, it is scarcely likely that its agricultural resources will be developed to any great extent for some time to come, as it is evident that to clear such land would entail a very heavy outlay, especially in a country where all kinds of labour are high; and this difficulty is enhanced by the timber being as yet of little marketable value. Excepting the Chinese quarter of the city of Victoria, it is perhaps the most English of any town or city we visited in Canada—principally English people with English comforts and ways—and has a population of nearly 20,000. One of the delegates expressing a desire to visit the Chinese quarters, the Mayor kindly provided us with an escort in the shape of a well-informed police officer, who called upon us in the evening and accompanied us to one or two of their stores, where we made numerous small purchases, after which our friend led us through several of their opium-smoking dens and gambling hells, all reeking in an unhealthy, almost stifling atmosphere, sickening and most pitiable to behold. We afterwards paid a visit to one of their theatres, where, although in the middle of a play, our pilot led us straight across the stage and into the dressing-room; the attention of the audience for the time being evidently directed more towards us than the performance, it being, I believe, generally expected that some important arrest was about to be made. Owing to the short time at our disposal, our visit to the island was necessarily brief, which was rather a matter of regret to the delegates.

We left Victoria by the Wednesday night's boat, upon which we were provided with comfortable berths. Taking the East-bound train next morning, on our return journey, we, in reply to an earnest invitation, made a break of a day at a little town called Mission, on the main line, 43 miles from Vancouver. Although very young—nearly every dwelling having been built within the last two years—it is evidently fast growing in both size and importance. The land in this district, especially in the Fraser River valley, is very productive, our attention being directed to some fine specimens of mangolds, swedes, ox cabbage, &c., as well as of fruit and almost all kinds of vegetables, which had been collected together for our inspection owing to the

shortness of our stay there. We had a drive of some miles, and called upon several farmers, whose crops we found good, and a very fair amount of stock kept, one having as many as over 200 pigs. Prices of farm produce here, too, especially pork, mutton, and dairy produce, are comparatively high, the demand of the two leading cities probably being nearly equal to the supply of the whole of British Columbia, with its small acreage of cultivated land. There is any amount of land more or less cleared which can be purchased at low prices, as well as uncleared land, awaiting homesteading or other settlement, within a few miles of the railway in this district.



CALGARY.

Continuing our return eastward, we reached Calgary, *Calgary.* Alberta, on Saturday evening, October 7th. Calgary, with its 4,500 inhabitants, is said to be the most important, as well as the prettiest, town between Brandon and Vancouver. It is the centre of the trade of a great ranching district, and the chief source of supply for the mining districts in the mountains beyond. Having spent Sunday there, we left by branch line to Red Deer, a little town 90 miles north of Calgary, with a surrounding district said to have strong claims upon the attention of the delegates. Farming here generally is conducted on a much better system, to my mind, than in most other districts we visited, either in other parts of the North-West Territories or in Manitoba, special attention being directed by several farmers to cattle-rearing, dairying, &c.—a feature which cannot be too strongly recommended. On one farm we visited was a herd of about 40 useful-looking dairy beasts, as well as a large number of young stores, calves, &c., of various mixed breeds. Mr. Trimble, the owner, in showing us round, stated that he came from Ontario two years ago, and, with two grown-up sons, homesteaded 480 acres, working the whole in one farm. Being a man of some capital, he was at once

able to stock the land, and follow his intention of dairying on a rather large scale. He speaks highly of the suitability of the land in this district for dairying; under his able management his farm certainly does produce butter of high-class quality, some samples which we tasted being truly fine. There is a ready local demand for all he can produce, at prices varying from 20 cents (10d.) in summer to 30 cents (1s. 3d.) per lb. in winter. There is also a good demand here for pork at 10 cents (5d.) per lb., and mutton at 9 cents to 10 cents (4½d. to 5d.)—prices which, considering the low cost of production, must be very satisfactory. There are in the Red Deer district many thousand acres of nice rolling prairie of a black loamy nature, with plenty of water and shade, thoroughly adapted for stock or mixed farming, awaiting homesteading or other settlement.

On Thursday, October 12th, we spent most of the day attending the Red Deer and District show of live stock, poultry, dairy produce, corn, roots, vegetables, native and other grasses, ladies' fancy work, Indians' fancy work, &c. —a very miscellaneous collection. We were asked to assist with the judging, which several of us consented to do. Mr. Fraser and I chose to take part in judging the cattle, Mr. Faulks the roots and vegetables, and Mr. Guiry the dairy produce. Our decisions generally, I believe, gave a fair amount of satisfaction. The show, considering the extreme youthfulness of the society, was on the whole a very good one. Some very nice specimens of Shorthorn grade beasts were shown—sorty and full of condition. The corn, roots, vegetables, butter, and native grasses were also very good, and spoke much for the quality of the land which produced them. Some fine oats, shown in quantities of one bushel each, we very much admired, and asked to be allowed to test their weight, which we found to be 51 lbs. per imperial bushel.

We left Red Deer in the evening for South Edmonton, 100 miles further north, where we arrived next morning. Next morning we drove out some miles south-west over land chiefly unenclosed, consisting of undulating prairie, timber, scrub, and grass; some little here and there being homesteaded. Crops, some not yet harvested, were good—oats especially. One farmer, an Irishman, declared to us that he had last year 1,580 bushels off 11 acres of land—a statement which certainly aroused our risible faculties, though, out of respect to his feelings, none of us expressed the slightest incredulity.

In the afternoon we crossed the North Saskatchewan River by ferry to pay a visit to an exhibition of farm produce, &c., at North Edmonton, their cattle show having been held on the preceding day. Many of the exhibits were of a very high standard of quality, especially wheat, oats, mangolds, swedes, cabbage, and potatoes. Barley was not so fine, and does not generally appear to do so well as the other cereals wherever we have seen it. These autumn shows appear to be very popular among Canadian farmers. Even in the more than ordinarily sparsely populated districts, where but little land is under cultivation, we were pretty certain to hear something of their approaching "fall fair," or show. There is no

doubt such exhibitions tend to encourage the production of a better class of stock, a better quality of the various farm products, and, consequently, better farming.

On the Saturday we had an extensive drive. Leaving the hotel early in the morning, we proceeded in a north-easterly direction over land but little of which is enclosed or cultivated, apparently very similar to much we had recently been over—dark soil, productive-looking prairie, but with less grazing—evidently better suited to arable cultivation. After reaching some 25 miles out, and having partaken of luncheon at the house of a hospitable settler, we crossed the river at Fort Saskatchewan, returning over more unenclosed and unoccupied land, a vast area being full of fine grazing and meadow prairie grass, all gone to waste for want of stock-keeping settlers. This particular district is well adapted for stock or mixed farming; but homesteading seems to have received a check here, through nearly all the land in the vicinity of both North and South Edmonton being in the hands of speculators, thus driving intending settlers further afield, or tending to keep them away from this fine district altogether.

Having changed our quarters from South to North Edmonton, *Saint* we next explored the district of Saint Albert, a little town *Albert.* 10 miles west of Edmonton, a rather thickly timbered neighbourhood, but with a fair amount of land under cultivation. We called upon several farmers on our way, most of whom appeared to be in a fairly flourishing position—crops generally good, and farms well stocked. One, a Mr. Maloney, farming near Saint Albert, gave us some rather interesting information. He purchased his farm nine years ago, having migrated from Ontario. It consists of 600 acres—100 arable, remainder prairie grazing and meadow grass, timber and scrub. Mr. Maloney follows a thorough system of mixed farming, having a herd of 80 Polled Angus beasts, 20 horses, and about 50 pigs of various breeds. He rears all his beasts, using pure-bred sires, and runs the calves with their dams. His steers make \$35 (£7) to \$40 (£8) each, at about three years old, as beef, being purchased for the West Coast markets. Horses of the general purpose class are also bred, and when broken average about \$100 (£20) each at four years old. Pigs are fed, and sold as pork or bacon, for which the demand is invariably good, prices being about 8 cents (4d.) per lb., carcass weight. Mr. Maloney said he had been very successful, and speaks highly of the prospects of mixed farming being remunerative. For labour he pays \$20 (£4) a month, and board, to able young men for summer months, and \$15 (£3) to \$16 (£3 4s.) if engaged the year round.

Both at Red Deer and Edmonton the delegates were banqueted. During the usual complimentary speech-making, we were in either case respectfully asked to believe that Alberta is the finest agricultural provincial district in Canada, and their respective districts the finest in Alberta. Similar expressions of loyalty on the part of Canadians towards their own particular districts had been our experience right along, and for a time were rather puzzling; but I now feel convinced that they spring from an honest feeling of contentment with their lot, coupled with a desire to have more neighbours.

Southern Manitoba. Returning from Edmonton on the morning of October 17th, we travelled right along by rail to Brandon, where we arrived on the evening of the 18th. Having spent the night there, we proceeded to drive to Killarney, in Southern Manitoba, a distance of over 60 miles, through the dis-



A FARM-HOUSE, SOUTHERN MANITOBA.

tricts of Rounthwaite, Methven, and Wawanesa. The line of route passed through was of a diversified character—much fair land, and apparently fairly well farmed. Harvest had evidently been completed some little time past, as most of the corn had already been threshed, and in some places straw and stubble burned; in others, lying in rough heaps, as drawn from the thresher, ready for destruction. While the Scotch delegates paid a visit to the Scotch crofters' settlements near Killarney, the others took a drive of more general interest, calling at the farm and cheese factory belonging to a Mr. David, whose manager gave us the following particulars:—A large herd of dairy beasts are kept, the milk from which, together with a considerable quantity purchased from neighbouring farmers, is all made into cheese. Two meals are mixed and worked together in one operation, some fine-quality, heavy-weight cheese being made. A ready demand is found for the whole in the larger towns of Manitoba, at prices at the time of our visit only varying from 11 to 12 cents (5½d. to 6d.) per lb. For the purchased milk 75 cents (3s. 2d.) per 100 lbs. weight is paid, and 90 per cent. returned as whey to the farmers. Allowing a little for the value of the whey returned, each cow produces in money value about \$4½ (18s.) per month for the six summer months during which the business is carried on. About 10 lbs. of milk are required to produce 1 lb. cheese. It is said the system is fairly remunerative all round.

Killarney to Winnipeg. Leaving Killarney, we proceeded by rail, distance about 160 miles, to Winnipeg, passing through much very useful-looking arable land, interspersed by large tracts of grazing prairie and meadow, with but little timber—nearly all open land, scarcely any portion being enclosed by fences of any kind whatever. The custom hereabouts is to herd the cattle, as it

is in many other parts of Manitoba and the North-West. Even the railways, where this custom is in operation, are without fences to



A KILLARNEY CROFTER PLOUGHING

protect the cattle. It was rather a novel experience to me to witness the train slack speed and blow the engine whistle loudly, for the purpose of driving cattle off the line, which was done on several occasions. It was quite interesting to see at intervals all along the line the despatch with which "fall," or autumn, ploughing was being proceeded with, often by double-furrow "sulky" ploughs running on high wheels, with a comfortable spring seat for the accommodation of the driver. They are sometimes drawn by three, sometimes by four horses, always working abreast. This "fall" ploughing is considered a very important matter by the Manitoba farmer, in view of the long-continued winter of severe frost which is quite certain to follow. Apparently, more importance is attached to quantity rather than quality of work done, much of the land being ploughed very shallow, with a furrow varying in width anywhere between one and two feet. In this way about five acres is said to be a fair day's work for one team. Owing to climatic influences, no autumn wheat is grown. The Scotch Red Fife variety is practically the only kind in cultivation.

At Winnipeg, our investigations having come to a close, we parted with our respected guide, and our little company was broken up. Taking a run round by Niagara, I, with two other delegates, reached Montreal in time to board the Allan Line mail steamer "Sardinian," which left on October 28th for Liverpool, where, after rather a stormy passage, we arrived safely on November 10th, having spent a most enjoyable, interesting, and instructive visit, extending over close upon three calendar months.

After having travelled across the Dominion of Canada from the Eastern Coast to the Western, a distance of over 3,000 miles, and having been driven over more

Conclusions.

than 1,000 miles of her agricultural districts, I can conscientiously say (and I have all through felt the responsibility of my position as a delegate) that I like her land, I like her laws, and I like her people. Of the general high standard of quality of the land, I do not believe there can be any doubt in the minds of men who have had the privilege of seeing so much of it as I have done. There are without doubt many millions of acres of as fine, black soil, easy-working, fertile land, awaiting settlement in the North-Western Territories as the most fastidious farmer could wish to cultivate.

Canadian law, as applied to agriculture, is, I think, all any farmer could expect or desire. Taxation on the land is merely nominal, only amounting to a very few cents per acre. The education system is said to be second to none in the world, and will, I believe, commend itself to everyone, especially to parents of young children, who may be contemplating settlement as farmers in Canada. A general school endowment fund is provided by setting aside two sections of Government land in every township in Manitoba and the North-West Territories; that is, the income from the eighteenth part of the whole is devoted to educational purposes, which leaves, so far, only about 25 per cent. to be provided by the general body of owners. Schools, with their properly qualified teachers, are to be found in the outlying and most thinly populated parts I visited.

As to the people of Canada, I was much impressed with the cordiality, hearty friendliness, and frank equality shown by all classes alike towards each other. I was particularly careful to note this during my tour through the country, and I feel quite certain that no man who is self-respecting, honest, and industrious need have any fear but that he would be received and made welcome, by all classes alike, as an equal.

Of the climate, from personal experience I can say but little, as my sojourn in the country has only been between the seasons of summer's heat and winter's severity. It is, however, conceded that the thermometer has a way of dropping at times to 30, and sometimes more, degrees below zero. What this may mean I would prefer to leave others to judge for themselves. I can only add that we were everywhere told that, owing to the fine, bright, clear atmosphere, unaccompanied by wind, the cold is not felt to anything like the extent the state of the thermometer would indicate, and that but little personal inconvenience is felt. Anyway, the fine, healthy appearance of the people, and especially the children, would seem to bear out these statements.

From the abundance of testimony of settlers who have been out farming in Canada for the last 10 or 15 years, together with what I have seen, I am quite convinced that many a man there has been getting a very satisfactory return for his labour and small amount of capital, while many have been struggling and failing in the attempt to make ends meet in the Old Country, where successful farming generally is now a thing of the past. I feel every confidence in recommending Canada to the notice of all classes of British agriculturists, but especially

to young, strong men, with or without capital, who are blessed with habits of sobriety, industry, and perseverance.

In conclusion, I feel I should be wanting in gratitude did I not express my thanks for the kindness and hospitality we received during our visit. There was a general desire on the part of everyone with whom we came into contact to help in every way the object of our mission ; and, at the same time, our movements were not restricted or circumscribed in any way.



A LARGE TREE, STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER (GIRTH, 55 FT.).

THE REPORT OF MR. BOOTH WADDINGTON,

Bolehill Farm, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

My Visit. HONOURED by the invitation of the High Commissioner for Canada to visit the Canadian North-West, and to report upon its agricultural resources, I started on my journey with a much lighter heart than I now have in commencing to write my Report, for I feel keenly the responsibility of my position in writing a document of this nature. But, in giving a plain, unvarnished account of my travels, observations, and impressions, together with statements received from farmers I met regarding their experiences in the various provinces visited, I ask my readers to believe, be they intending emigrants, or residents in Canada, that if I mislead the one, or misrepresent the other, it will be in error, and not intentional on my part. Personally, I have no motive, object, or interest in either promoting or retarding emigration, and give my impressions without bias, according to my light. My time in any one province was necessarily very short, and it would be unreasonable to expect that I could grasp all the advantages or disadvantages surrounding any particular district.

The Voyage. I left Liverpool, per Beaver Line s.s. "Mariposa," on August 19th, and, being a good sailor, the voyage out was a time of luxurious ease and enjoyment. I often hear people say they would emigrate but for having to cross the water; but with the present large, comfortable Atlantic steamships, the voyage is a pleasure trip, and need not frighten anyone. On the 26th we passed the Straits of Belle Isle, sighting the coast of Newfoundland on the south, and the wild, bleak shore of Labrador on the north. Up the Gulf and the mighty river St. Lawrence, in clear weather, the trip is most interesting and enjoyable; past the Isle of Anticosti (150 miles long), and along the shore of the province of Quebec—at first a wild, mountainous district, with only a few fishermen along the coast, but later we find the country more level, with nice little towns and villages, and innumerable churches. We now pass many islands, and, nearing Quebec, get a fine view of the Falls of Montmorency. Quebec presents a fine appearance from the river. Standing as it does on high, rising ground, the larger buildings show to good advantage, with the Citadel, evidently a very strong position, overlooking all. From the Citadel a splendid panoramic view is obtained. To the north the river winds past, and is divided by the Isle of Orleans, with the Laurentian mountains in the distance. Immediately below the Citadel, H.M. flagship "Blake," and cruiser "Mohawk," were at anchor. Across the river, to the south, are large lumber mills, apparently the most important industry. To the west there is the historic battle ground where Wolfe was killed, and between the Citadel and the river a stone

marks the place where Montgomery fell. Up the river from Quebec to Montreal the scenery is charming, with apparently prosperous-looking towns and villages along the banks. We now begin to note the crops and cattle, but cannot judge them in the distance.

I ought to mention that only one delegate accompanied me—Mr. Faulks, of Rutlandshire. Six others have preceded us, and five more are to follow. Montreal is a fine city of 250,000 inhabitants, and appears to be a busy business place. Everyone appears to have something to do, and is doing it. Many of the buildings are of granite and stone, and the hotels, shops, and business blocks would be a credit to any city in England. The city is lighted by electricity, and electric cars run in all directions at a high speed. The island on which the city is built is 35 miles long and 9 broad, and, as the most western point navigable for ocean-going ships, Montreal must become even a larger and more important city in the near future. We ascended Mount Royal, commanding a magnificent view of the city, river, and surrounding country. We shot the Lachine Rapids, where one gets a touch of excitement as the boat rushes down the seething waters, sometimes so close to rocks, which, if touched, would mean destruction.



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.

On September 2nd we left Montreal per Canadian Pacific Railway for Ottawa, 120 miles distant. *En route* we get some fine views of the Ottawa River, and the steamers and rafts upon it. It does not appear to be a very good agricultural district. Oats are about the only crop grown on the small farms we can see from the cars. Judging from the saw-mills and the thousands of logs held by booms in the river, the lumber trade must be

an extensive and important business. Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion, has a population of 48,000, and is finely situated at the junction of the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers. Both rivers have falls at this point, which are picturesque and useful, and furnish power to drive immense saw-mills, paper mills, &c., &c. The power of these falls is transmitted by means of electricity to drive the street cars, which appear to run everywhere. The city is lighted by electricity, which is cleaner, more convenient, and, I think, safer for shops, hotels, &c., than gas. The situation of the Parliament Buildings, on high ground overlooking the river, is magnificent, and the square formed by the separate blocks of buildings is very fine.

Accompanied by Professor Robertson, we visited the
Experimental Farm. Central Experimental Farm—a fine institution, and one which must be of very great service to farmers throughout the country.

Experiments are carried on in all branches of agriculture, horticulture, forestry, &c. Various breeds of cattle, pigs, and poultry are kept, and their relative merits tested and reported upon. Various crosses are also the subject of experiments. Cheese and butter making are carried on, and in connection with dairy work they have schools and give lectures all over the country. Professor Robertson, who has charge of the dairy and agricultural department, is a level-headed, clear-minded Scotchman, who has the happy faculty of conveying to others the result of his researches in a clear and interesting manner. All varieties of grain, grasses, roots, fruits, and forest trees are grown, and tested as to their suitability to soil, climate, &c., and reported upon in every detail. Thousands of bags of seeds are sent out annually to farmers to test their suitability to various localities, and farmers sending in samples of seed can have their germinating qualities tested before sowing. Experimenting with different crops for fodder, Professor Robertson considers ensilage composed of maize, English beans, and sunflower heads a perfect cattle food. One-third bushel of Indian corn and half a bushel of horse beans are mixed and sown on one acre in rows 3 ft. apart: this allows room for cultivation between the rows. This crop is cut and put into the silo when the corn reaches the glazing stage, together with the heads from a quarter of an acre of sunflowers. This combined food yields 15 to 18 tons of green stuff per acre, at a cost of about 6s. 6d. per ton. It is claimed that the feeding properties of this food are equal to the best mixture of roots and corn, and that the sunflower heads develop and give it an agreeable odour. When milk cows are fed upon it, it imparts a richer flavour and a higher colour to the butter.

Leaving Ottawa on Sep. 5th for Winnipeg, a distance
To Winnipeg. of 1,300 miles, we pass through a wild, broken region.

After leaving the Ottawa River, we travel hundreds of miles amongst granite rocks and stumps of burnt forests (this is an important mineral district), relieved by glimpses of beautiful lakes and rivers. Passing through the wild, romantic scenery along the shores of Lake Superior, we get some fine views of that immense inland sea and its numerous islands. Port Arthur (population, 3,000) and Fort

William (population, 2,500) are Lake ports for the West, and have immense grain elevators, good wharves, &c. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have some fine steamers plying from these ports, giving East-bound passengers the opportunity of a pleasant change from railway travel. The morning of Sep. 7th found us on the fringe of the great prairies, and soon after we arrived in Winnipeg, the Chicago of the Canadian North-West.

Winnipeg. Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, is situated near the junction of the Red River and the Assiniboine. It was formerly called Fort Garry, and is a town of wonderful growth. In 1871 the population was only 100; now they claim a population of 30,000. It has some splendid public and private buildings, and hotels fitted with every modern appliance for convenience and comfort. The main street is 130 ft. wide, paved with wood, and has four tram-car tracks—two for horse cars, and two for electric cars—for Winnipeg, like other Canadian towns, is up to date in everything, having electric cars, electric light, and telephones everywhere. We were here joined by Mr. Guiry, the Irish delegate from Clonmel, and were driven round the city. We visited Mr. Ogilvie's flour mill, which is most perfectly fitted up. From receiving the grain in the elevator to weighing the flour in bags, everything appears to be done by machinery of the most perfect kind. In cleaning, rolling, &c., the grain is passed from one machine to another, until it is delivered in bags, fine white flour; 47 double rollers, working night and day, turn out 1,900 barrels of flour in 24 hours. There is no dust or dirt anywhere. Everything is as clean as on a man-of-war.

Immigration Buildings. We next visited the Immigration Buildings—a most useful institution, where shelter is provided for immigrants. Sleeping berths, cooking stoves, and baths are provided free. Reliable information can be obtained, and a register is kept of those wanting help, male or female; also of those seeking employment. It is pleasant to note that there are no names on the register wanting employment, but many names are registered as wanting hands, mostly farmers.

Market Gardens. We visited some of the market gardens. Most of these are worked in a rough-and-ready sort of way, but we saw some very fine vegetables, such as cabbages, celery, tomatoes, pumpkins, cucumbers, &c., growing in the open; also small fruits, as currants, gooseberries, raspberries, &c. The soil is a deep black loam, and evidently very productive. Only stopping here one day, we did not visit any farms; but we are informed that land, or improved farms, can be bought near the city at reasonable prices.

Portage-la-Prairie and District. On September 8th, accompanied by Mr. R. T. Riley, we took train to Portage-la-Prairie, on the Assiniboine River. Here farmers boarded the train in search of men wanting work, offering 8s. per day, and board, for men to help in threshing. The town has a population of 4,000, has large grain elevators and flour mills, and is the centre of a very rich agricultural district. We drove from here to Westbourne, a distance of 26 miles,

across the Portage Plains. Crossing the district at this season is one of the finest agricultural sights imaginable. The plains are nearly flat,



FARM SCENE, MANITOBA.

with little or no bush. The fences to the 90-ft. wide roads are usually of barbed wire, generally three wires used to posts 16 ft. apart, so that there is nothing to obstruct the vision. We travel on, mile after mile, through one vast wheat-field. As far as the eye can reach in every direction is wheat in stook and wheat in stack, with an occasional field of oats. Many are busy threshing, and some have already threshed and burnt the straw. All thresh in the field, and many thresh from the stook to save labour in stacking. In this case they have eight two-horse waggons drawing the grain to the machine, where two are unloading at the same time, with three men on the machine cutting bands and feeding. They say they can thresh 1,800 bushels per day. The wheat is very dry, and when reaping they leave the stubble as high as possible, so that they have not so much straw to pass through the machine. One man, with a pair of horses attached to a rope, is engaged in drawing the straw away from the machine, leaving it in heaps, to be afterwards burnt. The machines are driven by eight-horse-power traction engines, using straw as fuel.

The grain is not so plump or heavy as our English wheat, but is very hard and of the finest quality, and the straw is brighter in colour than any I ever saw in England. The cost of threshing is 2d. per bushel and food for the men, or 2½d. per bushel if machine owner finds food for his men. Farmers here keep very little live stock of any sort, excepting work horses. I cannot help thinking this a mistake, both

for present profits and future prospects. Rich as the soil undoubtedly is, it cannot continue for ever to grow good crops of grain without change, or rest, or manure, and it appears absolute waste to burn bright, clean oat straw, that would make fine fodder for cattle. There is great waste of grain in the fields and about the threshing machine; yet I am informed that farmers pay 6d. to 7d. per lb. for Chicago bacon, and that they also buy butter. Grain here is graded by experts before being sold, and is sold according to grade, or quality put upon it, instead of by sample. The standard for wheat is 60 lbs. per bushel: oats, 34 lbs.; and barley, 48 lbs. per bushel. In crossing this district I was pleased to note many Indian wigwams or tepees. The Indians help the farmers in the threshing.

Arriving at Mr. Sanford's ranch at Westbourne, on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, we had tea,
Sanford Ranch.

and then drove nine miles north to Lake Manitoba, over a fine piece of wild prairie, with patches of underwood, which give it a park-like appearance. On the bottom lands the grass (blue joint) was up to the horses' sides, and would cut 3 tons to the acre. This district could keep thousands of cattle and horses, and has at present but one settler in the nine miles we travelled. These lands are held at 10s. to 20s. per acre. During the drive we saw many prairie chickens (grouse) and wild ducks. We stayed overnight at the Sanford Ranch. This gentleman owns in this district 25,000 acres of land, only about 300 acres of which are under cultivation, and the rest wild prairie. About 300 head of cattle are kept, and 200 horses, breeding about 60 foals per year. These are sold at three and four years old at their annual sale, and realise £50 to £60 per pair. The mares are what we should call good 'bus or general purposes horses. One entire French horse and two imported coach horses are kept. One of these is a very handsome Cleveland Bay. It is claimed that these light horses can plough more ground than heavy ones on their light land, and can be hitched to a "rig" and driven to town, or saddled and ridden anywhere. The stock here have an unlimited range of pasture in summer, and in winter are housed in commodious buildings and fed on prairie hay. This has no value here except cost for cutting and carting, or about 6s. per ton. They are making a new departure, having purchased a stock of Berkshire and Tamworth pigs. Mr. Davy, the manager, is an intelligent Englishman of experience, who believes more in mixed farming than in wheat-growing alone. He is now putting his sons on farms of 160 acres each. One is building a new house, and he tells me, with just pride, that every nail is paid for before being used.

Farms near the railway can be bought here at 20s. per acre, and intending settlers might go further and fare worse.

Next morning we drove to Woodside Station, through a nice district; but a portion of it shows traces of alkali. Here are 36 square miles without a single settler upon it. At Woodside we part with Mr. Riley with regret. He is a well-informed Englishman from Beverley. One of the old-timers here, he knows the country well, and proved a most interesting and agreeable guide. We now took train to Minnedosa, 50 miles distant,

on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, passing over undulating prairies, rather thickly settled. We cannot judge a country from the cars, but there are some prosperous-looking little towns, and evidently some good wheat lands surrounding them. At Minnedosa we join four other delegates—Mr. R. Shelton (Notts), Mr. J. Smith (Yorks), Mr. A. Fraser (Inverness), and Mr. J. Steven (Ayrshire)—with Mr. G. J. Cox, from the Dominion Lands Office, as conductor. We proceeded the same evening to Russell, 96 miles hence, a town of about 200 inhabitants. From Minnedosa the country is more broken, and devoted more to stock-rearing. The cattle we see *en route* are in fine condition. From Russell we drove a circular tour to the west and south-west. On our way we interviewed Mr. Cursitor, who has 320 acres of land, 180 acres in cultivation. His wheat averages about 22 bushels to the acre. He has 4 horses, 14 head of cattle, and 6 pigs. He and his boy do all the work, except about five weeks in harvest. He states that he came here 10 years ago without capital, taking his land by homestead. Valuing his land at £2 per acre, and adding his stock, implements, and present crop, he estimates himself to be now worth £1,200.

Driving to the Assiniboine River, we get a fine view of the country across the water, where there are 300 square miles of vacant lands open for homesteading, said to be excellent land; but, from information received, I am afraid water is difficult to obtain. We next visited Dr. Barnardo's Home—an interesting and, I think, a praiseworthy institution. Boys sent here are all 17 years or over, and after receiving a training in farm work they are hired by farmers throughout the country, and in course of time no doubt many of them will take up homesteads and become farmers on their own account, and useful members of society. The demand for these boys greatly exceeds the supply. There are at present only 30 boys in the institution. The well-arranged dormitories are made to accommodate 100, with ample dining rooms, kitchens, bath rooms, and isolated hospital. The boys appear to be well fed, cheerful, and contented. I talked with some of them on the farm, and with others who are out in service, and all speak well of the institution, and have good hopes for the future. The Home is under the superintendence of Mr. Struthers, who kindly showed us over the place. The estate consists of 9,000 acres, of which 600 are in cultivation, and the remainder in wild grass. The crops grown are wheat, barley, rye, oats, and roots. Kohl-rabi grows well, and keeps sound until the following spring. Turnips are said to do well, but the present crop was sown too late. Cabbages, onions, and other vegetables were very good. Most of the farm work is done by oxen; these are worth about £12 each. The threshing, chaff-cutting, and grinding is done by treadmill horse power. Three horses abreast are put on a belt, composed of wood and iron, working on an inclined plane. As the horses walk, the belt glides from under their feet. Thus the horses walk uphill all day without getting any nearer the top. These treadmills cost about £50 each, and are a very useful, convenient power to use for threshing, grinding, sawing wood, &c. One-horse machines are also made. Fifty milch cows are kept, and milk is also

purchased from neighbouring farmers. In the creamery they use both separated and gathered cream, ripened in vats, and churned in revolving square churns, and the butter is worked on large revolving tables. The separator is said to give best results, both in quantity and quality of butter. In our judgment, the butter was very good; it fetches 1s. per lb. In addition to the cows above mentioned, there are 250 other cattle of various ages, and 24 horses, also a few pigs and sheep.

Successful Farmers. We next drove north to Asessipi. On our way we called upon Mr. Andrew Setter, who states that he came here nine years ago, with his wife and one child, his worldly goods consisting of one pair of oxen, waggon, and plough—value about £38—on which he owed £16. Taking up a homestead (that is, a free grant) of 160 acres, he has since purchased another 160 acres, and has this year 280 acres of wheat ready for threshing. Estimating it to yield 30 bushels per acre, and at present prices 1s. 8d. per bushel, he considers he will make £200 clear profit on the year. He has nine horses to work his farm, but only keeps one cow for milk for his family. For the better education of his children he has built a house in Russell, at a cost of £260, and only lives on the farm in summer. Asessipi, 16 miles north from Russell, is pleasantly situated in the deep valley of the Shell River. There are only a few houses, and a general store kept by Mr. Gill, a fine old English gentleman from Loughborough. A large portion of his trade is with the Indians, who come long distances to sell him furs, and to buy groceries, blankets, &c. Many Indians are about, and during our stay they brought a large bearskin to sell or trade. Mr. Gill is building a dam across the river for water power to grind corn and to saw lumber, and also contemplates building an hotel to accommodate incoming settlers and sportsmen. Game, large and small, is very plentiful here. Driving still further north to inspect some homestead lands, we interviewed Mr. James Smith and Mr. Mitchell, from Scotland.

Mr. Smith has some splendid Shorthorn cattle, which would be a credit to any English gentleman. Two bullocks, just sold, we estimated would dress over 80 stones each. All his stock, young and old, were in prime condition, and we were assured they get nothing but grass in summer and hay in winter. These cattle speak volumes for the nutritive value of the grasses and hay, for unless cattle receive good, nutritious food all the year round, from their youth up, they cannot be grown to the size and weight we saw them here; and land that will grow good Shorthorns will grow almost anything. Mr. Smith houses his stock in winter. Mr. Mitchell's farm was too far away for us to visit, but he claims that his stock are equal to Mr. Smith's. He has 600 acres of land, but grows no grain of any sort. He has 100 head of cattle and 30 horses. For the winter feed of these he cuts about 300 tons of hay. Both cattle and horses run out all winter, excepting newly calved cows, for he maintains that cattle do better outside than those which are housed; wild pea and vetch grow in the woods, and afford good winter eating for cattle. There is a large stretch of park-like country here between the Shell River and the Assinibois,

extending about 30 miles north from Assessipi, with at present very few settlers upon it, and open for homestead entry. On arriving back at Russell, we estimated we had driven 55 miles during the day. The endurance of the horses is wonderful. They will trot all day at about eight miles per hour. I have not seen one yet that was faulty in wind; but the climate is dry, clear, and bracing, and we ourselves feel capable of more exertion than at home.

More Farmers' Experiences.

Next day we drove a circular tour to a district about 18 miles east. The land is similar to that travelled over on the previous day—undulating prairie, with bluffs of poplar; and the soil a black loam, resting on clay. We called upon Mr. Henry Smith, who, previous to coming here nine years ago, was a farm labourer in Oxfordshire, and had only £10 on arrival, and worked for other farmers the first three years, spending all his earnings in buying cattle, for which he found ample range on the prairies. Five years ago he took up a homestead of 160 acres, and has since purchased 160 more. He cultivates 80 acres. The rest is grass for hay and pasture. He has 80 head of fine grade Shorthorns that any English farmer would be proud of. He and a boy do all the work on the farm, except in harvest. He does not house his cattle in winter, but feeds liberally with hay. He allows the calves to run with the dams, selling his stock at about three years old at an average price of about £8 each. Mr. Smith has brought out his father and mother from the Old Country, and appears to be prospering in every way. I think this is a fine example of what can be done by industry, thrift, and common sense. In Russell we met the Hon. Senator Boulton, who owns several thousand acres of land, including the town site. He is building himself a new house of bricks, made by mixing clay and straw together, and drying them in the sun. I also interviewed two English farm labourers, who say they receive £42 per year, and board, and in winter have an opportunity of going to school. Both speak well of their present position and future prospects. Land in this district can be purchased at 8s. per acre and upwards. I consider this district best adapted for stock-rearing, or mixed farming. I fear wheat is a rather uncertain crop.

Farmers near Carberry.

Leaving Russell on September 8th, we retraced our steps to Neepawa, 120 miles distant, and, driving to Carberry, 35 miles, we pass through a fine level district, similar to the Portage Plains. For some portion of the distance the soil is sandy, with some gravel, but for the last 15 miles of our drive the soil is a rich black loam, that looks like growing anything required. This part is thickly settled, but we see very little variety of crop. Like the Portage Plains, it is nearly all wheat. Standing in one place, I counted 160 wheat stacks, besides fields in stock. As on the Portage Plains, too, very little live stock is kept here—not even pigs, turkeys, or geese, to glean the enormous waste on the stubble. Carberry, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has a population of 1,000. It has two newspapers, a flour mill, and fine grain elevators. One million bushels of grain were shipped from here last season. Next day, accompanied by Mr. Boyd, M.P., we drove a circular tour north-west,

and found more mixed farming. Timothy, where grown, looks remarkably well; and on Mr. G. Hope's farm we found some very good mangolds, swedes, and other turnips. Mr. Hope, who is a Scotchman, was a farm labourer at home, and speaks very highly of his adopted country. He has revisited Scotland, but was glad to get back to Canada, partly on account of the dreadful, unendurable Scotch winters. We saw here a fine crop of Indian corn, ready for cutting for winter fodder. Mr. Hope has the best garden, and the most English-looking homestead I have seen in Manitoba. We then visited several other farms. Mr. Angus, from Antrim, Ireland, came here 11 years ago with £100 capital. Taking 320 acres by homestead, he has since purchased another 80 acres. He ploughs 200 acres; the remainder is in grass. He has 5 horses and 27 head of cattle, and estimates the present value of his farm at £1,000. Mr. J. Fear, from Somerset, England, has 480 acres of land—380 acres on the plough. He estimates this season's wheat crop at 20 bushels per acre. He and one man do all the work, excepting in seed and harvest time. He pays his man £38 a year, and board. In live stock he has 6 horses, 15 head of cattle, and 250 sheep. This is the first flock I have seen in Manitoba, and I am astonished to learn that, although horses and cattle can, and do, run out all winter, sheep have to be housed. I did not much admire this flock. The ewes are said to be worth 26s. each. Mr. Fear speaks highly of the country. He came here 15 years ago with £100, and now considers himself worth £2,000. Altogether I consider this a very rich district, which gives ocular evidence of prosperity. One of the most impressive signs of a settler's progress is to see a good modern frame house, and behind it, or near it, the old log home of former years. The observant eye can note evidences of this nature everywhere, and they speak more forcibly than the boastful oratory of many people we meet. Improved farms here are worth from £3 per acre upwards.

Leaving Carberry on Sep. 17th, our next halt was at
Experimental Farm, Brandon. Brandon (population, 5,000), a large grain-shipping point, and evidently a large distributing point, judging from the splendid shops, which seem to be doing a large wholesale trade. We visited the experimental farm, two miles from town; and the energetic manager, Mr. S. A. Bedford, conducted us over the farm and buildings, giving us interesting particulars of the experiments and work done here. The farm consists of 640 acres; the soil a black loam, with marly loam, varying to clay subsoil. They cannot as yet find any apples to bear fruit here, but Mr. Bedford is experimenting with many foreign varieties, and hopes to succeed in finding suitable stocks. Timothy grows well here for a three-years' ley, and native ryegrass does well, but Italian and other ryegrasses and clover are too delicate. Banner oats yielded last year 82 bushels per acre; Prize Cluster, 67; and Triumph, 75. Barley of various kinds yielded 40 to 65 bushels per acre; Goldthorpe doing best with 65 bushels, weight 44 lbs. per bushel. In cattle, we find one fine dark-red Shorthorn bull—good in every point—one poor Ayrshire, one good Galloway, and two Holsteins. We find Holstein cattle rather popular, especially for cheese-making.

They grow to a large size, but are difficult to feed. Pure-bred cows are kept, some of which are kept for experimental crossing. Here the grinding, chaff-cutting, &c., is done by wind turbines. Many of these windmills are used for pumping, &c., and they are a cheap, useful power. We next visited Mr. Beresford's stock farm. There is one barn 112 ft. by 50 ft., in the basement of which there are 11 loose boxes for cattle, and four for horses; 60 stalls for cattle, and six for horses. They have some fine Shorthorns: the bulls are all dark-red. No. 1 weighs 2,200 lbs., No. 2 is 2,100 lbs.; and they have a number of fine young bulls. In all, they keep about 100 pure Shorthorns. I was much interested in a visit to Mr. Christie's saw-mills. There are three large boilers, automatically fed on saw-dust, which drive a 100-H.P. engine. The large saw runs at 900 revolutions per minute, and cuts 35,000 ft. of lumber per day. The logs are brought from the river by means of an endless chain running down under water, with spikes on the top side which hook into the logs and carry them up an inclined plane to the saw. It is wonderful to see how deftly the logs are handled, and how rapidly a log is sawn into boards. The boards, as they drop from the saw, are carried by revolving rollers between two other saws, which cut them to widths; and next, by a side movement, they are cut square and true to length, after which they are stacked in immense piles to season. When seasoned, the floor boards and matched weather-boarding are put through machines, and come out planed, tongued, and grooved, at the rate of 20,000 ft. per day. The price of this dressed lumber is £4 10s. per 1,000 ft.

We left Brandon on the 17th for Indian Head, 181 miles west. *Opinion of* *En route* the country we pass through was mostly rolling prairies, with bluffs; but there were large stretches of treeless prairies. *Manitoba.* At Fleming we enter Assiniboia.

In leaving Manitoba, I may say this province covers an area equal to England, Ireland, and Scotland combined, and is situated about midway between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Speaking only of the portion of the province I have visited, it may, with the exception of Portage and Carberry Plains, be described generally as undulating prairie, with bluffs of poplar. Two great rivers—the Red River and the Assiniboine—with their numerous tributaries, run through the province, with some timber along the river-courses. The soil differs in quality, but may be described in a general way as black loam resting on clay sub-soil. I have seen no heavy or clay land, or any rock or stony ground, excepting small boulders of granite distributed on the surface, which are supposed to have been brought there by icebergs in past ages. These are easily cleared off the land, and are useful to build foundations for buildings. I was surprised to find such a good class of cattle. The quality, generally, will compare favourably with average English cattle, and I saw no lean stock. They have also a very useful class of horses. The tram horses in Winnipeg are, I think, the best I ever saw used for that purpose.

Indian Head is a town of 400 inhabitants; altitude, 2,000 feet. *Farms near* The once celebrated Bell Farm, and Lord Brassey's *Indian Head.* farm are located here; also the Government Experimental Farm for the North-West. Mr. Angus McKay,

the manager, kindly conducted us around this and neighbouring farms, giving us very interesting information regarding the district generally. The experimental farm contains 680 acres, 500 acres of which are in cultivation, under a great variety of crops. Grasses are of very great importance to agriculturists; clovers, ryegrass, and timothy fail to grow here, but Mr. McKay has found a good substitute in an Austrian grass (*Bromus inermis*), yielding heavy crops of good quality. Meadow fescue also does well. In wheat, Red Fyfe is about the only variety grown; but experiments are being made with the object of obtaining wheat of equal quality which will ripen earlier. Mr. McKay gave us particulars of the average crops for five years: wheat, 31 bushels to the acre; barley, 40; and oats, 50 bushels. We next visited the farm of Mr. W. J. Harrop, who has 480 acres of land—400 in corn, and 80 in pasture. He came from Ontario in 1882, and had only £8 on arrival; worked as a farm labourer until 1888, when he took up as homestead 160 acres, and purchased 320 acres at 23s. per acre. He has now 15 horses, 7 cattle, and 17 pigs, and has also a threshing outfit. I notice this machine has an elevator attachment, delivering the grain into granaries, composed of rough boards nailed to posts, and without a roof. Farmers appear to have no thought of rain, leaving the grain in stook until threshed, any time before snow falls; or, if put in stacks, they are left uncovered. Mr. W. H. Stevens's farm, here, contains 910 acres. He had this year 250 acres of wheat, 40 of oats, and 30 of barley, and a large acreage in fallow and breaking.

Mr. Stevens states that he came here in 1883 with one yoke of oxen and £100. Taking up 320 acres by homestead, he has since purchased 590 acres at from 18s. to 25s. per acre. He has 10 horses, 15 cows, and 13 pigs, and estimates that he has cleared £200 per year since he came here. The soil is a light sandy loam, resting on clay; and we were here introduced to what appears to us a novel method of cultivation—that is, to summer-fallow the land when it becomes foul, and then grow two or three crops without ploughing; then summer-fallow again. In cutting the crop the stubble is left as high as possible to hold the snow, which would otherwise be blown away. When the snow melts in spring, it affords moisture to the ground, and assists the seed to germinate. As soon as the snow disappears the stubble is burnt, and the grain sown by means of a press drill. Considering the lightness of the soil and the shortness of the season—allowing no time in spring, and only a short time after harvest for ploughing—when labour is scarce and dear, I think the system a good one, having the advantage of giving the land a rest and a thorough cleaning once in every three or four years. Most farmers in this country have far more land than they can cultivate, and cultivation generally is carried on in a rough-and-ready sort of way. The wheat crop in this district was the best I saw in Canada, both in quality and quantity. Mr. Harrop's wheat was threshing out 40 bushels per acre.

The Bell Farm. Major Bell's farm contains 13,000 acres. He has this season about 2,000 acres in crop. The major employs many Indians; near his homestead I counted 18 tepees, or wigwams. The day before we arrived the major's corn elevator and

flour mill were burnt down, and on my return three weeks later I noticed the elevator had been re-erected.



CAMERON'S FARM, QU'APPELLE.

Lord Brassey's Farm, and Others.

We next drove to Qu'Appelle, 10 miles distant, across a portion of Lord Brassey's estate. Lord Brassey & Co. own here about 35,000 acres, and have 3,000 acres in cultivation. We did not visit the farm proper, but passed over a wild portion of gently undulating prairie. I thought the soil in places rather light and thin. I could see in the distance seven double-furrow "sulky" ploughs at work, each drawn by four horses abreast. Land in this district can be bought at 10s. to 40s. per acre. Qu'Appelle, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has a population of 800. Here we met Mr. Davidson, M.L.A., and several farmers, who, like all others we have met, seem to think they have found the very best district. One expression became very familiar to us: "Right down here is the best place in the world for a man to make a living." From here we drove a circular tour to Fort Qu'Appelle, 20 miles north. We called at several farms on our way, including the Edgely Farm. This estate consists of 14,000 acres, owned by Sykes Bros., of Stockport, England. Most of this land is offered for sale at 20s. to 33s. per acre, payable in seven annual instalments, with interest at 6 per cent. Mr. Cameron, the manager, estimates the season's wheat crop at 20 bushels per acre. He pays his labourers £3 per month, and board, all the year round, or £4 15s. per month for seven months of the year. The Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land Co. and the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. own a large portion of the vacant land here, offered at about 12s. per acre. Fort Qu'Appelle is delightfully situated in the broad, deep valley of the Fishing lakes on the Qu'Appelle River. A chain of lakes extends for 30

miles, and the town, with a population of 300, mostly English, is located between two of these lakes. It has three churches, a town hall, good schools, and a flour mill, run by Messrs. Joyner & Elkington, which turns out 100 barrels of flour per day, by the roller process. Here we are introduced to the Premier, the Hon. F. W. G. Haultain, M.L.A.; Mr. Insinger, M.L.A.; Mr. Sutherland, M.L.A.; and other influential gentlemen. It is something new to British farmers to find a Government, and all Members of Parliament, taking a deep interest in agricultural matters. Lawyers, judges, doctors, parsons, and men of all professions appear to have a practical knowledge, and take an active interest in agriculture.

Pleasantly situated on the lake shore, some distance from the town, is a Catholic Industrial School for Indian children. Father Hougonard, the principal, kindly conducted us over this most interesting institution. There are 190 little Indian boys and girls who are being educated. The boys are also taught various trades, and the girls the various household duties. They are particularly quick at learning anything which can be copied, as writing, drawing, and music. I was astonished to see the beautiful writing of little girls who have only been here a short time. There are many of these schools throughout the country, under different religious denominations, and no doubt they are doing a good work. We must admire the policy of the Dominion Government in their praiseworthy efforts to educate and civilise the Indians, instead of pursuing a policy of extermination. They provide implements and instructors to teach them agriculture; for, now the buffalo, the natural food of the red man, is gone, he must either work or starve. There is great difficulty in teaching or inducing him to work, but they do not allow him to starve. There are 75,000 Indians in the country, and the Government have had no serious difficulty with them at any time, not even in the Riel rebellions, giving them equal protection with the whites, and treating them honourably and fairly in every way. Later I had the honour and pleasure of meeting Mr. Reed, who has charge of the Indian Department, and whose heart and sympathy are in his work.

Next day we drove out N.W. to the Park district over some very fine lands, with apparently good soil, a deep black loam. Most of this district is open for homestead entry, and is a very promising district, but rather too far from the railway. On our return we passed through the Sioux Indian village, and I was pleased to note many plots of cultivated ground; many of the Indians have log cabins to live in. One old brave and his squaw allowed us to investigate the interior of their tepee. The view from the top of the village is splendid. The broad, deep valley of the lakes reminds our Scotch friends of their native lochs. They say it resembles Loch Ness or the Crinan Canal. Deep ravines, called "coolies," lead us down to the valley, and a spin along the lake shore completed a most enjoyable drive. Leaving Fort Qu'Appelle, favourably impressed with its lands, and with kindly recollections of its people, we drove, *via*

Spring Brook Settlement, across some good lands to the railway, and took car to Regina.

Regina, the capital of the North-West Territories—Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Athabaska, and Alberta—is situated on a vast plain, which stretches away as far as the eye can reach in every direction. The first building in Regina was erected in 1883, and now they have a population of 2,200, good hotels, banks, churches, business blocks, &c., and, of course, electric light. The Parliament Buildings are not very impressive, but the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor is a fine establishment. Visiting the headquarters of the North-Western Mounted Police, two miles from town, Major Gagnon kindly showed us round. They have a fine riding school, and every provision for the comfort, recreation, and amusement of the men, who in drill, dress, and appearance are more like dragoons than policemen. The normal strength of the force is 1,000 men, but at present they only muster 800. These 800 men are supposed to protect life and property and preserve law and order over 400,000 square miles of territory, and they do it. Although there are in the area 30,000 Indians, I believe life and property to be as safe here as in London. Judging from all I can learn, there is very little crime in the North-West. We then drove across the Victoria Plains to the Bluffs, 20 miles to the north-east, and found very few settlers. We camped for lunch near the home of Mr. Barton, from Edmundsford, in Staffordshire. He appears to be comfortably fixed. The good man was not at home, but Mrs. Barton likes the country, and would not go back to England.

The soil in the Regina district is a tenacious clay loam which climbs up your boots. It is said to produce very heavy crops, but it must be more difficult to cultivate than the bulk of the lands we have visited. I may add that we saw this district under unfavourable circumstances, as the weather was damp, cold, and more disagreeable than any experienced during our trip.

We saw Mr. Davin, M.P., and Mr. Goggin, who has charge of the Education Department of the North-West, and who kindly gave us a little light upon the school system. They have free education. The Legislative Assembly pay 70 per cent. of the school expenses, calculated as follows:—To schools having an average attendance of 6 to 10 pupils, £86; and for every pupil in average attendance over 10 pupils, an additional sum of £1; for every pupil in daily average attendance in all standards above the third, an additional £3 14s.; for each teacher holding a second-class certificate, an additional £5; and for first-class certificate, £10. No religious instruction, as Bible reading or reciting, prayers or catechisms, is allowed until the last half-hour before closing school for the day; and parents so desiring can have their children leave school before religious instruction commences. A school district cannot be made more than five miles, either in length or breadth. Any district containing four heads of families, with not less than 10 children under the age of 20 years, can, by petition, be made a school

district. In every township of 36 square miles, two square miles are set apart for school purposes and expenses.

On the evening of September 22nd we left Regina for *Prince Albert*. Prince Albert, 240 miles north, and soon after daylight next morning we found ourselves at Duck Lake.

Here I found Mr. Urton, a nephew of Mr. W. Urton, agricultural implement merchant, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Mr. Urton is stationmaster here, also land agent for the railway company. He is very enthusiastic in praise of his adopted country generally, but of Duck Lake in particular. He was very anxious for me to stay and look round, but this could not be arranged. Prince Albert has a very pleasant appearance, stretching itself along the south bank of the North Saskatchewan River. It gives one a very favourable first impression. This fine river at high water is navigable for steamboats for some hundreds of miles above this point; and down the river it can easily be made navigable to Lake Winnipeg. After dinner we were taken a circular drive of 30 miles, through an undulating district of wood and prairie, with numerous small lakes frequented by large numbers of waterfowl. We called upon Mr. McKay, M.L.A., who has 900 acres of land in cultivation, mostly wheat and oats. Mr. McKay was born in this country, has travelled all over the North-West, and thinks this district the best for a man to settle in. From the top of Red Deer Hill, near Mr. McKay's farm, we get a splendid view of the surrounding country, evidently well-wooded and well-watered—two important considerations. The North-West Mounted Police have barracks here, Major Cotton in command, who kindly provided police waggons, camping outfit, guides, provisions, and a cook; and we start early on the 25th to visit the Carrot River district, east of the South Saskatchewan River. We are ferried over this river in a rather ingenious manner. The boat is attached by ropes to running blocks, which travel freely along a wire rope stretched across the river, and by holding the head of the boat slightly up stream, the current running obliquely against the side of the boat propels her across the river. After crossing the river, we drove many miles through a fine park-like district. The soil is a rich black loam, and all vegetation grows most luxuriously. Passing through fine stretches of open prairie, and then patches of timber, is like passing through a succession of parks. There is no more difficulty in ploughing and cultivating prairie lands, than in ploughing old pasture in England. The woods are full of wild pea and vetch—fine food for cattle. Hay meadows appear plentiful. I think this is the richest soil and the finest district so far visited, but it is far away from market town or railway. Prince Albert, 35 miles away, is the nearest. Camping for the night, those of us who had borrowed guns for this trip had fine sport. Late and early game is very plentiful. With wretched shooting we bagged 70 prairie chickens (grouse) and 10 ducks. On our return, after crossing the river, we took a different trail, passing through an Indian reserve, where most of the Indians have log cabins, and some cultivated ground. On this trail we passed many small lakes,

Further Railway Connection. In Prince Albert we are entertained by Mr. MacDowell, M.P.; Mr. Betts, M.L.A.; Judge Maguire, Mayor Donaldson, Captain Brown, &c., who are all very sanguine regarding the prospects of Prince Albert. They hope to have a railway built from here to Hudson's Bay, and that the Manitoba and North-Western Railway will be extended through this district. Prince Albert has a population of 1,500, two public schools, one Catholic school, and a convent; also a college for instructing native students for the ministry. They have a good court-house, and, as usual, electric light. They are also the happy owners of a novelty, in the shape of a large jail without prisoners. Judge Maguire informs me that he has held his present position as Judge over a very large area for seven years, and during that time has only had one case of homicide before him, and few cases of a serious criminal nature. During our stay in Prince Albert—September 24th—we had a sharp frost.

To Calgary and the Rockies. From here we went direct to Vancouver, a run of 1,400 miles, taking three days to accomplish; but we have come to look upon railway travelling as periods of rest and comfort. The Pullman cars are more roomy than we see them in England. We have drawing room, bath room, smoke room, lavatories, &c., with good, nicely served meals, and comfortable beds at night. From Regina to Calgary—483 miles—the country is mostly open prairie, treeless plains, growing the short buffalo grass. There are several towns on the route. We pass large stretches of open country, with very few settlers. Judging it from the cars, it does not look very inviting to anyone, except stockmen, who can see here millions of acres of pasture. Soon after passing Calgary we enter the gap and are among the Rocky Mountains, and for two days we revel in the grandest mountain scenery imaginable, with dizzy heights above us, and awful chasms beneath. With three powerful mountain engines we ascend and descend gradients of 116 feet to a mile, twisting and turning towards every point of the compass. We cling to mountain sides, with boiling, rushing streams 1,000 feet below, and glaciers and snow-capped mountains many thousands of feet above us. These prodigious mountains and terrible gorges are never to be forgotten, but cannot be described. As farmers on agricultural business bent, we are not expected to grow poetic or enthusiastic, or even to appreciate awe-inspiring scenes like these; so we proceed on our way without stopping at Banff or Glacier House, or any of the noted places for tourists. Along the Thompson River we see large shoals of salmon going up stream, and here and along the Fraser River Indians are catching them and drying them in the sun. Along the Fraser Chinamen are washing gold.

Vancouver. Previous to 1886 a dense forest covered the ground now occupied by the city of Vancouver (population, 20,000), well situated on Burrard Inlet. It has a splendid harbour of deep water. There is a line of steamships running from here to China and Japan, also to San Francisco and other Pacific ports; and, as the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Vancouver

must become a large and important city. Around it are immense forests of splendid timber, rich minerals in variety, and rivers teeming with fish. The city presents a straggling, unfinished appearance; but there are many good buildings, hotels, banks, churches, &c., of granite and brick, and one can hardly realise that all have been built in seven years.

It was intended to take a boat to visit Lulu Islands and other delta lands, but the sea was too rough; *New Westminster.* so, accompanied by Major Cope and Aldermen Franklin and Collins, we took electric tram to New Westminster—12 miles—a fine, well-built town on the Fraser River (population, 7,000). Steamers run from here to Victoria and other Pacific ports, also to up-river settlements. We were joined by Mayor Curtis, and Mr. Cunningham, a local farmer, and engaged a steam launch to visit the delta lands. Arriving at Ladner's Landing, we drove across the delta to Boundary Bay, and to within three miles of the United States boundary line. These delta lands are very rich, and will grow heavy crops, especially clover. Mr. Cunningham gives 75 bushels per acre as an average crop for oats; but these lands are flat, and rather difficult to drain. Farms here sell at £10 to £20 per acre. Along this part of the river are located the great salmon-canning establishments. The Delta Packing Co. have this season packed 30,000 cases, each containing four dozen tins of salmon. Chinamen are deftly labelling and packing the tins. The estimated output of salmon this season is £100,000. I priced a few articles in Westminster market, and found hay is worth 53s. per ton; beef, hind-quarters, 5d. per lb.; potatoes, £3 per ton; butter, 1s. 1d. per lb.; eggs, 1s. 3d. per dozen; chickens, 20s. per dozen; salmon, 5d. each, about 6 lbs. weight. Both at Westminster and Vancouver we witnessed the alacrity of the Fire Brigade. On sounding the alarm, the horses jump to their places, the harness drops from above, the collar is fastened by a snap, the driver slides from above to his seat, doors swing open, and they are all ready to start in seven seconds from sounding alarm.

On Oct. 3rd we left Vancouver per daily steamer, *Vancouver Island.* crossing the Strait of Georgia, and threading our way through many islands to Victoria (population, 20,000), the capital of British Columbia, which is finely situated on the south coast of Vancouver Island. The people and the architectural features of the place are decidedly English in appearance. The climate here is said to be superior to the South of England, and is becoming a popular resort for English gentlemen. The island is about 300 miles long and 50 miles broad, being covered with dense forests of magnificent timber. There is, perhaps, no very large area of agricultural lands available. Accompanied by Mayor Beaven, M.P.P. (from Devonshire), we drove about 30 miles through the straggling agricultural district of Saanich Peninsula, calling upon several farmers. Mr. King, from Somerset, England, rents a farm of 260 acres, 150 acres of it cleared, 2½ miles from town, for which he pays £120 per year, and taxes. He gives as

average crops: oats, 50 bushels per acre, selling at 1s. 10d. per bushel; wheat, 30 bushels, selling at 3s. 9d. per bushel; and he sells potatoes at £4 per ton. He milks 25 cows, retailing the milk in Victoria at 1s. 3d. per gallon. He pays white men £6 per month, and board, all the year round, and Chinamen 5s. per day. This is the first tenant farmer I have met, and the first who buys feeding stuff. He buys bran for cows at £4 16s. per ton. Mr. J. Nicholson, from Kerry, Ireland, located three miles from town, owns 275 acres, of which 120 are cleared. He paid £24 per acre for one field, and claims that the first year's crop paid for the land. He keeps 20 cows, and makes butter; this he is now selling at 1s. 8d. per lb. He grows potatoes, wheat, oats, and fruit. His wheat yields 40 bushels per acre, and timothy 2 tons of hay per acre. He estimates the cost of clearing timber lands at £26 per acre. Mr. Sloggart, from Devonshire, owns 800 acres, 300 acres cleared; paid 30s. per acre for his land, and estimates its present value at £20 per acre. He gives 70 bushels per acre as his crop of oats, and 45 bushels per acre of wheat. In this drive we saw many fine orchards, bearing heavy crops of fine fruit, especially apples. We were all amazed at the immense forest trees, Douglas fir and cedar. Many of them we estimated to be 250 ft. high, straight as a line, and 9 ft. in diameter. This splendid timber, even close to Victoria, has at present no market value. Spruce and maple also grow here, and we saw some patches of poor oak. On our return, we could distinctly see the State of Washington, 30 miles across the channel, and Mount Baker, 13,000 ft. high, rearing his snowy peak far above the clouds. We are now only 10 days from China, and here turn our faces eastwards and homewards. I left Victoria with regret that I could not see more of the surrounding country, for I think farmers here have the best market in Canada for their produce. Two miles from Victoria is Esquimalt, the British naval station for the North Pacific; and 70 miles north, connected by railroad, is Nanaimo, where valuable coal mines are being worked, and the consumption of agricultural produce is largely in excess of the production.

Eastward to Mission City. On our return, we stopped one day at Mission City, a young town on the Fraser River, 43 miles from Vancouver, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway; and a branch line runs from here to the United States line, where connections are made with Washington, Oregon, and California. We drove some miles across uncultivated delta lands, which require draining. On Mr. Page's farm we found some good roots, especially swedes. He says he has grown 100 bushels of oats per acre. There is no doubt this alluvial soil is very rich. Clovers, red and white, appear to grow spontaneously and luxuriously everywhere along the Fraser. I noticed it in the city of Vancouver, in gardens, and along the sides of streets. The same at New Westminster and along the railway track, or wherever it can find root-hold. Mr. Page has a fine piece of clover, after oats, and he assures me he has sown no seeds. He is the largest pig-breeder we have found, keeping 200 head in a long shed. For feeding, the pigs are divided into lots of 10, and in summer time they run on clovers. He sells at an average price of 3½d.

per lb., live weight. The cattle kept on this farm are Holsteins. Most of the stock I have seen in British Columbia are cross-bred, and inferior in quality to the cattle seen in Manitoba. Mr. Page pays white men £6 per month, and board, and Chinamen £4 per month, and board. Two of the latter were busy washing clothes at the time of our visit. Mr. Morton, from Huddersfield, who has just returned from a visit to England, and says he could not live there, has a nice farm of 350 acres near the town. This land has been cleared from the forest; is dry and rich. One piece of good clover, he says, has never been ploughed or seeded, and cuts 3 tons per acre; and from a measured acre he has lifted 30 tons of potatoes. He has a large orchard, which has just been manured with salmon; for farmers here have not only a harvest from the soil, but reap a rich harvest from the river. One farmer—Mr. Wren—says he has filled his waggon with salmon in three-quarters of an hour by means of a pitchfork, and, judging from the shoals I have seen, I think it quite possible. Salmon are regularly used as a manure to fruit trees. The enterprising people of Mission have built a salmon factory 350 ft. by 80 ft., and offer it as a free gift to anyone who will carry on the business of canning and salting salmon for three years.

There is a good opening here for a lumber mill, or for a pork-packing establishment, for I really cannot understand why the people of the North-West and British Columbia buy American bacon instead of feeding and curing their own.

The farmers of the district brought for our inspection some of the finest fruit and vegetables I have seen. The pears grow to an enormous size. Some fine salmon and trout were also brought for our inspection. With its river and railway communication, Mission has a fine future.

In leaving British Columbia, I may say this province is about 700 miles from north to south, and 500 miles from east to west; and five days in this province did not allow me much time to investigate its agricultural resources, on which to base a report. A country rich in minerals, rich in fisheries and in timber, these have attracted the minds of men, and agriculture has not received the attention it deserves. I was pressed to visit various localities, and was told of lands which only require draining, and of other sections of fine lands inaccessible for want of roads; and I am led to believe there is a large area of agricultural lands within easy distance of Vancouver that can be brought under cultivation. This district is, and is likely to remain, the best market in Canada for agricultural produce; and I much regret I had not more time, so that I could have seen some of the vacant lands, and reported thereon. Going there with the impression that they had no agricultural land in British Columbia, I came away with the belief that they have large areas that could be profitably brought under cultivation.

Returning east, Calgary was our next halting-place. *Calgary—* Surrounded by the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains, and *Ranches.* pleasantly situated on the Bow River, Calgary is an important town, with a population of 4,500. It is the centre of the great ranching district of Alberta, and a distributing point for the

mining districts in the mountains. The town is mostly built of stone, which gives it a clean, substantial appearance. From here we drove to



RANCH SCENE, ALBERTA.

Chipman Ranch, where they keep 1,000 head of cattle and 500 horses. They keep seven stallions—two Shires, two American trotters, two coach horses, and one Cleveland bay. Mr. Robinson says he runs both horses and cattle out all the year round. He grows both wheat and oats for hay, and considers wheat hay the best for horses, and oat hay good for all stock. The grass here is very short (buffalo grass), and they claim this grass in winter, cured on its roots, is equal to the best hay. Horses paw the snow away with their feet, but cattle have to root it away with their noses to get at the grass; and if it thaws, then freezes again, forming a crust on the snow, the cattle must be brought home and liberally fed, or they cut their noses with the ice-crust, and get frost-bitten, causing sometimes heavy losses. Mr. Robinson has all calves to fall between April 20th and August 1st. He sells his steers at three years old at from £8 to £10 each. The horses are broken at three years old, and sold when four to five years old at £40 to £50 per pair. He keeps 20 farm hands and cowboys. One of these, to satisfy one's curiosity, brought out two young horses, only caught the day before, and rode them both, making them go wherever he wished. The buffalo grass may suit ranchmen having a large area for pasture, but I was not favourably impressed with this district for general agriculture.

Farmers from the States.

I next visited the Red Deer district, 90 miles north from Calgary, on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway. For the first 50 miles the land appears to be similar to the Calgary district, and we see very few settlers. In this run I saw both deer and coyotes. At Olds, a settlement of

farmers from Nebraska, the quality of the land appears to improve, and from here forward we find numerous settlements. The town of Red Deer is nicely situated on the Red Deer River. From here Mr. Green took me a circular drive through a very fine piece of country. I called on several farmers, and found Mr. Smith ploughing a rich, deep black loam; he has taken up 320 acres by homestead, and says he had very little capital when he came here from Nova Scotia. He believes in mixed farming, and keeps 25 head of cattle, making butter, for which he receives 1s. per lb. His brother has 320 acres adjoining, and both are doing well, and are full of hope for the future. Mr. Beatty came here from the United States; he says he is not a practical farmer, but is successful; he has 60 head of cattle, and grows oat hay for winter fodder.

Red Deer District. I was very favourably impressed with this district, similar in general characteristics to the Prince Albert, Qu'Appelle, and Assiniboia districts; but, being near the mountains, it

is claimed that the climate is milder than further east. This district is well adapted for mixed farming. Coal is said to be plentiful, cropping out on the river banks in seams of great thickness. Land in this district near the railway is selling at 12s. to £2 per acre, but lands open for homestead entry are to be had within easy distance. Many Americans are coming here. I talked with several who had just taken up homesteads; and Mr. Burgess, Deputy-Minister of the Interior, informs me that emigration from the United States this year exceeds in number that from Great Britain.

Winnipeg again.

Wishing to visit the World's Fair at Chicago, I left my colleagues here, and returned to Winnipeg. Here I visited the market to obtain a few retail prices, and found wild ducks selling at 1s. per couple; lamb, mutton, and beef (best cuts), at 7½d. per lb.; chickens (dressed), 7d. per lb.; pork, 6½d.; ham, 8d.; bacon, 7d. per lb.; eggs, 10d. per doz.; potatoes, 1s. 8d. per small bag; hay, about 12s. per ton.

Leaving Winnipeg on Oct. 13th, I was surprised to find the district from there to the United States boundary so thinly populated, and I concluded it must be here, as elsewhere, that the land along the railway is held by speculators. I cannot help thinking it a mistake to sell or grant large tracts of land to individuals or companies, and thus drive actual settlers back from the railway. This land is mostly level open prairie, with, apparently, splendid hay meadows; thousands of acres of fine blue-joint meadows are left uncut to be burnt by prairie fires.

Canada at Chicago.

At the great World's Fair, Great Britain did not show to good advantage; but her colonies, notably Canada, made a creditable display. In the Agricultural Buildings I met the Hon. Senator Perley, who farms 1,000 acres in Assiniboia, and Mr. Penticost, from British Columbia, who kindly conducted me over their splendid exhibits of grain, fruit, &c., in great variety.

Here is a mammoth Canadian cheese, weighing 22,000 lbs., made from 100 tons of milk, or 24,370 gallons. In cheese exhibits the

success of Canada was phenomenal. In the June competition, of the 667 entries, Canada sent 162; and of the 138 awards for Cheddar cheese, Canada took 129, and the United States only 9. In the October competition, Canada took the whole of the 110 awards given for cheese made previous to 1893; and of the 414 awards given for cheese made in 1893, Canada took 369. This proves that the grasses and other conditions in Canada are suitable for cheese-making; and also, to my mind, proves the great benefit derived from experimental farms, demonstrating and teaching the best method of manufacture, not only in the treatment of the milk and the making up of the cheese or butter, but also the best method of feeding the cows, and the best food to use for a given purpose. In live stock also Canada was well to the front at the Exhibition; and she also made excellent exhibits of agricultural implements, and a creditable display in the Manufactures Building, in leather, textile, and hardware goods, all of which were worthy of more extended notice.

Conclusions. Having seen comparatively nothing of the older provinces of Canada, I can give no information regarding them, and in conclusion I can add but little to what I have already written regarding the North-West. To those who have made up their minds to emigrate, Canada offers free farms and thousands of square miles of fine rich lands to select from, all under the British flag, and governed by British laws, and amongst those whose language, dress, habits, customs, and sympathies, are all British. A people who by word and act give evidence of intense loyalty: they are a part of the British Empire, and so mean to remain; and anyone going from the British Isles is soon made to feel that he is not in a foreign land, and nowhere are British subjects made more welcome. I mixed with all classes, and, judging from my short acquaintance, they are citizens of our great Empire of whom we ought to feel very proud. One very noticeable trait of Western character is their happy, contented, sanguine demeanour. The North-West contains vast areas of really good, fertile land; but I cannot picture this region as all sunshine and roses, for after their bright, clear, sunny summers, they have long, severe winters. Nearly all the settlers from Great Britain that I saw, say the winters are more enjoyable than English winters. The air is dry, clear, and bracing, more agreeable and more healthful than our damp, foggy, raw climate. I have personally experienced a winter similar to theirs, and readily grant that their winters are more enjoyable and healthy than ours; but practical men will realise that a long winter means a short summer, leaving only a short time for agricultural operations. To compensate for this, the soil is light and easily worked, and a great deal can be done in a short time; and to partly balance the evil of having to feed stock for a long period, hay in many parts is abundant, and cheaply harvested. On the Pacific Coast they have a climate similar to the South of England, without our East winds; but there they have an excessive rainfall. The lands I saw there are rich, yielding heavy crops, and producing fruit in abundance.

The laws of Canada are similar to ours, and, I believe, well administered, the Government giving every possible assistance to agriculture; and collecting revenue from imports reduces taxation to a minimum. So much depends upon the individual—one will succeed where another would fail—that I feel reluctant to offer advice, but feel it incumbent on me to give my opinion; and to those who are craving for land, and crying out for small holdings in England—on which they could not live if they obtained them—I should say: Go to Canada, where you can obtain a large holding of your own. But I cannot advise anyone to go but with a view of going direct to farming with less capital than £150. Farm labourers may do well if they will work for farmers a few years before attempting to farm on their own account. One of the evils of the West, in my opinion, is that men go and attempt to farm without capital: many succeed, but must endure hardships. Others with capital spend all their money in land, securing far more than they can possibly cultivate, or perhaps pay for, and have to buy implements and all they require on credit, paying high prices and an exorbitant interest on the account, or go to money-lenders who advance \$90 and call it \$100, and charge 10 per cent. interest on that. My advice would be: Keep out of debt; work, and wait until you can buy for cash.

There is no doubt that the most desirable settlers, and the ones most likely to succeed, are small farmers who have been accustomed to work, and who could take out from £200 to £300. For these there is no fear but that they will succeed, and have a prospect of providing farms for their children. Regarding the best localities for settlement, I feel that my knowledge is limited, and I would not again undertake to report on such a large area in so short a time. I was most favourably impressed with the districts of Red Deer, Prince Albert, and Qu'Appelle, where farmers can secure lands both good and cheap, and begin with a small capital. To farmers with some means, farms in the district of Carberry, or in the immediate neighbourhood of Winnipeg, and around Westbourne, can be purchased at reasonable prices. It is useless to think of going to farm in British Columbia without capital: cultivated farms are dear there, and wild land costs a considerable sum to bring into cultivation; but I think farmers with sufficient capital can get the most remunerative returns in that province.

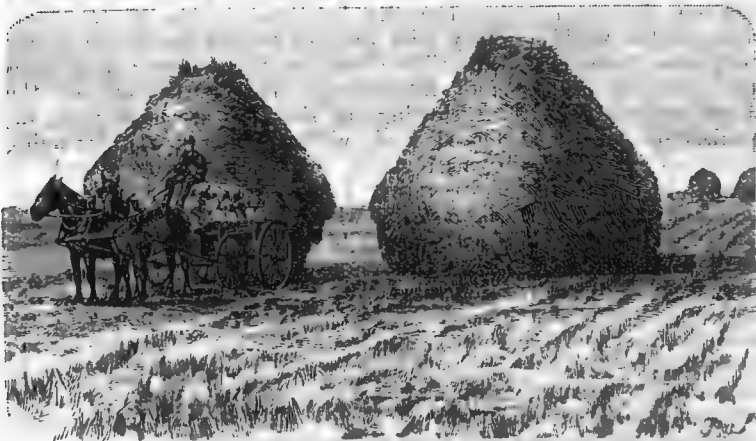
Many English farmers appear to think that Canadians cannot grow wheat at present prices, and that they must be on the road to ruin; but I believe they can, and are making a profit on wheat. If neither horses nor implements are kept, to hire all the work done will cost about as follows:—

	Per Acre.
Ploughing	£ 6 0
Seed, at 2s. per bushel	0 4 0
Sowing and harrowing	0 3 6
Harvesting	0 7 0
Threshing 20 bushels, at 2½d.	0 4 2
Carting grain to market	0 2 0
Rates and taxes	0 0 2
	<hr/>
	£1 6 10
	<hr/>
Produce of 1 acre—20 bushels, at 2s.	£2 0 0
Net profit; or call it rent on land, costing £3 per acre	£0 13 2

Of course, those farming the land themselves save a large portion of above expenses. One gentleman who lives in town, and owns a farm outside, says he hires all the work done by contract at £1 per acre. There are no poisonous snakes in the North-West, and, strange to say, no worms or rats; but gophers and badgers are numerous. Small game is abundant everywhere, and in some parts they have deer, antelopes, and bears. The health of Canada is proved by the Government statistics. According to the census of 1891, the death-rate of Manitoba was only 10·36 per 1,000, and for the whole of Canada 14·10, against 19·4 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

The Canadian Government could offer no better evidence of confidence in their agricultural resources than by inviting English, Irish, Scotch, and Welsh farmers to visit their lands, to investigate their resources, and to give an impartial report of their inquiry; and in this Report I have drawn attention to every drawback presenting itself to my mind.

In conclusion, I thank all those who so kindly assisted us in every way, which includes everyone I met in Canada.



WHEAT STACKS, MANITOBA.

THE REPORT OF MR. JOHN COOK,

Birch Hill, Neen Sollars, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire.

HAVING been requested to write a short account of this my second visit to the Dominion of Canada—the nearest and undoubtedly the most favoured of all the British colonies—in doing so I am placed at a great disadvantage. Not having visited the country for that purpose, and not expecting ever being called upon to give an account of my journey, I am not in the possession of particulars and details to render my Report as interesting and complete as it otherwise might possibly have been. Therefore I must be content to give just a bird's-eye view—a passing glance—at the country, through which I travelled at lightning speed almost; consequently my remarks will have to be very brief indeed.

I think I have not much to say with reference to the *The Voyage.* voyage, which was rather uneventful. We sighted very few vessels, or monsters of the deep. We experienced a good deal of fog on the banks of Newfoundland, and the fog-horn was blowing for days and nights continually. We first saw land on the eighth day out, having sighted Cape Race, a somewhat barren-looking spot; and yet I am told it is not, when you get further inland. Darkness now obscures the vision for a matter of 12 hours or so. Morning finds us safely in the mouth of the St. Lawrence, about 500 miles from Quebec. I knew we were in close proximity to endless pine forests before coming on deck, as the odour, or perfume, seems to penetrate and pervade every part of the ship. I was struck with the grandeur of the scenery—I suppose not very different in these parts to what it was before Columbus first set foot on American soil. The St. Lawrence is one of the finest rivers in the world. Every mile you get further up stream nearer to Quebec there is a perceptible change in the scenery: it becomes less picturesque, but more interesting. The settlements on the shores are more numerous, clearings in the bush are more frequent, patches of tilled and fenced land, with growing crops, springing up on all sides. One begins to think for the first time that he is coming to a civilised country; and I have no doubt a good many emigrants are somewhat disappointed with their first impressions of the land of their adoption. I will venture to tell them, however, that these small settlers we see along the banks are very superior to the labouring class from whose midst they have just come, simply because they are standing on their own domains. The first place of any note we come to is Rimouski. Here the vessel stops for the first time since leaving Londonderry. A shot announcing our arrival is quickly responded to on shore by the running up of the Union Jack. A steamer is soon alongside the vessel, and, having taken off all mails and a few passengers, we are soon once more on our way rejoicing.

These French Canadians must be very good people, if one may

judge by the number of places of worship that are to be seen. I presume they are mostly Roman Catholic. The Falls of Montmorency, which descend into the St. Lawrence a few miles below Quebec, have a very transparent, panoramic effect; the height being so great that the water dissolves itself into one vast mass of spray, reaching the river below in a cloud of vapour. Our good old ship arrived in Quebec on Sunday morning. A stroll over the fortifications cannot fail to produce a peculiar and weird sensation in the mind of anyone who is of a meditative temperament. All aboard once more. To attempt to describe the country between Quebec and Montreal is simply a repetition of what I have already given, but that it is less hilly than below Quebec; it more resembles a large plain. It seems well adapted for grazing purposes, but what cattle and sheep I saw near the river appeared to be of a very inferior kind. This part of the colony is capable of producing much more than it does at present.

We arrived at Montreal next morning, and spent a day in this beautiful city, visiting all places of interest.

As the time for our departure is drawing nigh, we now repair toward the Canadian Pacific Railway depôt, and, having provided ourselves with a few necessities in the shape of provisions—there are dining cars, of course, on the train, but these are too expensive for the ordinary emigrant—we now start on a long, weary journey, being on the train all night; but with the dawning of the day we find ourselves gliding along through some of the best parts of Ontario, and a most glorious country it seems: it is not at all unlike some of the home counties. I heard it described as “the garden of Canada,” and very aptly too, with its orchards of all kinds of fruits. I would much like most of the tenant farmers in England to have just one glance at this smiling, happy-looking country. I fear there would soon be many more vacant farms than there are at present. We now begin to steer for the North-Western regions; some speak of it as “the wilderness,” but it is not so by any means; certainly the country is not apparently, generally speaking, adapted for agriculture, but I quite believe that those portions that look the least inviting and barren will eventually become most valuable, as they are said to abound in minerals of all descriptions.

There are occasional settlements along the lakes to Winnipeg, and crops of all kinds seem to flourish in favoured spots, especially the rye and other grasses; and I was really surprised to find how well the English clovers seem to do in some places, as I had always been led to understand they would not stand the intensity of the winter. If they are found to answer in these parts, it will be a great boon to Canada, as the exportation of hays and clovers is likely to become one of the staple products of the country, and, being compressed by the hydraulic system, the bulk is greatly reduced for shipment; it already finds its way into almost every nook and corner of England. A gentleman in this parish has just had a consignment in of the very best timothy, and, after paying carriage from Liverpool, it cost him less than £6 per ton. The timber is somewhat of stunted growth, but it

serves well for fuel for the railway engines, and finds employment for a good many hands. In the vicinity of the lakes, fishing is extensively carried on. Every time the train stopped a great many of the passengers alighted, and, to vary the monotony, amused themselves by culling the wild flowers which grow in such profusion in the midst of these primeval forests, "wasting their sweetness on the desert air."

I suppose all things come to an end some time, so our *Winnipeg.* railway journey proved no exception. We arrived in

Winnipeg early one morning about the middle of July. The next difficulty was suitable lodgings, but we had not long to wait, as all the hotels in the place send touts to meet every train. One of these gentlemen accosted us. We listened to his importunities, and accompanied him to his hostelry, which I did not regret. Board and bed, from \$1 to \$2 per day, one table; the extra comes in according to the class of dormitory you choose to occupy. All our former shipmates were pretty much scattered by this time, one young fellow remaining with me; he was going to settle out there. I must now attempt to describe my first day's experience in Winnipeg. After being shown to our respective sleeping apartments, we adjourned to breakfast, to which we did full justice. We then decided to take a stroll down street. My friend had a letter of introduction to Mr. Smith, Immigration Agent. We called upon him. Mr. Smith gave my friend an introduction to a farmer at Baldur, near Brandon. At the Immigration Office we saw a splendid collection of the productions of Manitoba—every description of grain, and many small fruits. There is also a museum—specimens of all animals, also of the feathered tribes, that inhabit these regions.

Our next visit was to a Mr. Gamble, a land agent in a large way of business. He was exceedingly kind. He *A Farm near* offered to lend us his horse and buggy to take a drive *Winnipeg.* out into the country; and, as we were particularly anxious to get a glimpse of real Manitoba farming, he gave us the address, and directed us to the farm of a Mr. Wishart, about 10 or 12 miles out. This gentleman met us as we approached his house, and gave us a hearty welcome. Having stabled the horse, we started to inspect his crops of wheat, and it was a pleasure indeed. I ventured to remark that I thought he planted too thickly, but he assured me that he had given it a fair trial, and found the yield much more satisfactory from thick planting. He informed us he had been out about eight years. He had just doubled his land, and next year intends building a larger house. He had been a farmer at home in the Principality, but not very successfully, I think. The old gentleman intimated to us that it was a great consolation to him, as years increased, to know that those who were most dear to him here would be well provided for when he had joined the majority; and this is only one case in a hundred.

The next day we started for Brandon by the Northern *To Brandon.* Pacific Railway. July is the best month for seeing the crops in their full vigour, just bursting into the ear. I have heard a great deal about the spring and autumn frosts destroying the crops; but I don't believe for one moment it is owing to the seasons.

Some of the farmers seem to think that any time will do for planting. If they will plant wheat when they ought almost to be thinking of harvesting, they are simply courting disaster, and bringing the colony into bad repute. What can be plainer? When travelling through the country, you pass through hundreds of acres of the levellest and best crops you ever saw, whilst growing by the side the same quantity not far above the ground is often seen: this, of course, means certain failure. Then they go about complaining of the seasons.



GALLOWAY CATTLE ON A MANITOBA FARM.

Arriving at Baldur, my friend here left me to fulfil his contract with the farmer he was engaged to through Mr. Smith, of Winnipeg. I cannot say how he was likely to answer. He possessed two essential qualities: he had youth and money. Two other necessary ones he could not boast of, viz., strength and knowledge. I fear there are rather too many of this sort. In some parts of the prairie there is a great deal of wet, swampy land, but this eventually will have to be drained either by large dykes or canals; but I am told these swamps dry up in summer, and supply immense quantities of prairie hay. The native prairie grasses possess great fattening properties. I have seen large numbers of cows near Winnipeg; their pastures appeared to be of the most meagre description, and yet the animals were half fat. What would they have been in a fair pasture, or even more so, on land laid down to English grasses?

Arrived in Brandon at night. The next morning I took a thorough survey of the town. I like it much better than any other prairie town I had seen; its streets, and especially its suburbs, are most tastefully and systematically laid out; nearly all the residences have

their tennis or croquet lawns. I now start on my visit to the experimental farm, and I must confess that the way in which everything was arranged and managed exceeded my expectations, and reflects the greatest credit upon whoever had the responsibility of laying it out. Mr. Bedford explained to me some of the difficulties he had to contend with in keeping the different kinds of grain separate, or true to their respective sorts, stating that he has to summer-fallow sometimes in order to clear the ground thoroughly of one crop before planting again. I was interested in seeing the sunflower cultivated as a crop, for use in the silo. I then ascended the hill at the rear of the homestead. This is one of the finest views in Manitoba: it embraces the whole of the experimental farm, and vast tracts of beautiful prairie as far as the eye can reach, with the Canadian Pacific Railway running right through the midst—the trains being lost to sight in the hazy distance—bound for the Rockies and the Pacific, and to make the picture complete there is an Indian encampment; but whether they are there permanently, or if they sometimes “fold their tents, like the Arabs, and silently steal away,” I do not know. I have now gone the length of my tether, or, in other words, the length of my purse.

Eastward again. I must now put the ship about and retrace my steps homewards, well pleased with what I have seen. Somebody says, “See Venice and die;” but I would prefer to put it: See the Great North-West and live. The next

morning I went aboard the cars of the Canadian Pacific Railway as far as Portage-la-Prairie; here I spent the Sunday, and was struck with the way in which the Sabbath is kept. I attended service at the English church; they have no Established Church here, but the rites and forms of the Church of England are more strictly adhered to, and in a far holier and more Christian-like spirit, than they often are where Establishment exists.

An Agricultural Show. I start now for Winnipeg. The land by this route is not quite up to the same standard of excellence as what I had seen a little farther to the south. I arrive in Winnipeg once more.

I am just in time to witness the most important event of the year in Manitoba, viz., the great agricultural show, or fair, as they call it. I have seen most of the best shows at home, but in some respects this is superior. The electric tram is laid down from Winnipeg to the show—a matter of two miles—the cars running every five minutes. When you enter the show-ground you can hardly realise the fact that the selfsame spot only a very few years ago was a howling wilderness. The first fine building that presents itself to the visitor's gaze I think contains the horticultural portion, which was a pleasure indeed to pass through. The next holds all the feathered and fur tribes, and in another all kinds of grain and corn are up for competition.

The next is the most important of all, especially to the proverbial Englishman, viz., the large dining pavilion; after which one enters the carriage department, which also surprised me: the get-up, workmanship, and finish can hardly be surpassed in any part of the world; some scores of different patterns and styles—they look most luxurious.

The next exhibit is the threshing machines. These, to all appearance, are not very different one from another, and have to be tested to show their better qualities; there are all the other implements necessary for farm work, including many traction engines. In the live stock department, the heavy draught horses took my fancy most; not that I am sure that this class of horses will prove to be the most suitable for this country, but they were a splendid lot, nevertheless; a good many of them were imported ones. There were some very fat cattle, but the breed in some instances was rather uncertain. The Black Polled were good. I was sorry not to have seen my favourite breed better represented, viz., the Herefords. There were only about half a dozen good cows, and these came from England. The sheep were not quite what I expected to see. A good many farmers go in for the long-wool breeds; I do not think they can answer out here. I hope the many fine specimens of Shropshires that are being sent out daily from my county will soon alter this state of affairs. The usual varieties of shows and curiosities seen at fairs and races, &c., at home, were here in all their glory. There was also attached to the show-ground a splendid race-course, or track, as they call it. Races were being held; there were competitions for trotting and leaping.

The 1892 Harvest. The total amount of grain of different kinds grown in Manitoba last year amounted to 23,191,599 bushels of wheat, 14,762,605 bushels of oats, and 3,197,876 bushels of barley. Wheat has for the past three years produced an average of about 20 bushels per acre; oats, 36; barley, 26; and potatoes, 175. The inducements offered by Manitoba to those seeking a new home have been frequently pointed out, but, as most visitors say, "it is impossible to realise the opportunities afforded without actually seeing them."

More People Wanted. Manitoba wants more people, and has great inducements to offer them. If a man prefers stock-farming, there are thousands of acres of nutritious grass awaiting him. If he desires to engage in grain-growing as a speciality, there is no country in the world offers equal opportunities. Some of their most prosperous farmers of to-day went to the country as labourers less than 10 years ago. Any man with brain and muscle enough to be a farm labourer can soon be farming for himself. The pioneer work of Manitoba is already done, and a man buying a farm there is really settling down amidst the comforts of civilisation. All parts of the country have railways, which makes access quite easy. The chief want is farmers, men to develop the inexhaustible wealth of their fertile soils.

Fertility of Soil. Manitoba requires men who have had some experience elsewhere, and can turn their work to the best advantage for themselves; they will find a hearty welcome there. After 10 years' cultivation these deep rich lands are as fruitful as ever, and with improved methods of farming it will always continue to be a choice farming country. Speaking generally, their best-trained and richest farming lands are bare of trees, and will want tree-planting for shelter. Greater abundance of bush means mixed farming, and bushy land with hay swamp is the best for cattle-raising and dairying.

Choice of Land. The inquirer must regulate his choice of location as his former experience and aptitude indicate likelihood of success, which will depend much upon the individual skill and industry of the settler. The soil of Manitoba is peculiarly adapted for easy and profitable cultivation. It seems to be a settled fact that the further north wheat is grown, up to a certain limit, the better it is. Barley does well, and has made 54 lbs. to the bushel. Oats go as high as 90 bushels to the acre. The climate of Manitoba, though different to ours, has been much exaggerated. In summer the days are warm, reaching sometimes from 80° to 90° in the shade. The nights are, however, invariably cool. In winter it is sometimes very cold, but the air is dry and bracing, and the people do not complain.

In concluding my very scattered remarks, I wish to say I have many a time been asked: Which is the best country for a small farmer or agricultural labourer to go to? but to reply to such a question carries with it a grave responsibility. You may possibly mar or make the prospects of many a man; one word or one stroke of the pen may alter the career or change the destinies of hundreds. Perhaps, before I give an answer to such an almost vital question, I may be allowed to give a little of my own experience.

Manitoba the best place for Emigrants. The late Earl of Derby once said, "Before a man is fit to be a Cabinet Minister, he ought to pay at least three visits to all the principal British colonies." Now I shall never be a Cabinet Minister, nor have I paid three visits to any of the colonies, but I have paid two visits to the Dominion, and three to the American continent. Five-and-twenty years ago I worked in the hay-fields and harvest-fields of Ontario for a common wage; I have worked in the bush, and ploughed on the best prairie land of Michigan and Illinois; I have been a sheep farmer on the pampas of Buenos Ayres; I have seen the best farming land in Chili, and spent five years on the best and largest sheep stations in New Zealand. Some may say, perhaps, that these remarks have no connection with the question at issue, but I am only giving them to show that my experience qualifies me to pass an opinion; and, in replying to the question, Which is the best country for a small farmer or agricultural labourer? I unhesitatingly give my verdict for Manitoba.

I must now say farewell, though very reluctantly, to the Great North-West, in order to reach the goal, the object of my visit to America, viz., the Chicago Exhibition. But even there I had not done with Canada by any means: the Canadian section and her exhibits were as great an attraction as anything that was to be seen within the confines of the great World's Fair.

THE REPORT OF MR. JOSEPH SMITH,

2, Mowbray Terrace, Sowerby, Thirsk, Yorkshire.

HAVING been appointed, in response to an invitation by Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., High Commissioner of Canada, as delegate from Yorkshire, to visit the Dominion to inspect its agricultural lands, and report on its resources and capabilities, and fitness for emigrants from this country—I set sail from Liverpool on the 17th of August, 1893, in company with several others with a like purpose, in the “Parisian,” one of the Allan Line steamers, with a crew of 150, and betwixt 600 and 700 passengers, amongst whom were Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., and Lady Tupper, and the Hon. C. H. Tupper (who has since been knighted), and Sir John Thompson, the Premier, who were returning from the Paris Conference, where they had been engaged in connection with the seal fisheries arbitration.

The Voyage. During the voyage we made it our duty to inspect the ship, and looked over the emigrants’ quarters, in order to judge what sort of provision was made for the steerage passengers. We found everything quite satisfactory—the food was wholesome, and plenty of it; everything was kept very clean and tidy; and there was no complaining. I inquired amongst the passengers afterwards, privately, and found that there had been no extra provision with an eye to our visit. On each side of the river St. Lawrence, as you proceed to Quebec, are little villages, chiefly inhabited by French settlers, whose fore-elders came out many years ago and built their houses close by the water’s edge, their fields running back, in long strips, to the mountains beyond. Their houses are nearly all built of wood, and whitewashed, and look very neat. In contrast to the small houses are large churches with tinned roofs, which glisten in the sun, and give quite a picturesque appearance to the villages. The inhabitants live by farming and fishing.

We arrived at Montreal about 2 o’clock on Saturday afternoon, the 26th August, and after submitting to the ordeal of having our goods examined by the Custom House officers, we went to the St. Lawrence Hall Hotel, where we stayed over Sunday. The same afternoon we went into the town, and saw what could be seen of its buildings. The streets are well laid out, with boulevards and squares, large, substantially stone built public buildings and offices for the business part of the town. It is a city of electricity; everything goes by it—the telegraph, tram-cars, street lamps; and nearly all the houses and shops are lit by it. The telephone is everywhere, and is very convenient. You can order from your butcher or baker the day’s provisions without going out of your own house. The churches are on a grand scale, do credit to the people, make the

town look more beautiful, and show the respect for the name of God which everywhere prevails.

Ottawa. Having left Montreal about 9 o'clock on Monday morning, we proceeded on our journey westward, and arrived at the capital city--Ottawa--about 12 o'clock at noon, having passed through an uninteresting country, chiefly inhabited by French settlers, who are very thrifty. Their land suffers much from want of manure and good cultivation. They live in small houses built of wood, which in some cases are neatly painted and look well from a distance. They seem to be satisfied if they can make ends meet, and divide their little holdings amongst their families, which thus descend from father to son. The fields are divided and separated from each other by wood fence poles from the forest, which provides them with timber to build their houses, fencing, and firewood. There is a large quantity of timber all along the line, and the lumber trade is carried on very extensively, and affords a great amount of labour and an outlet for capital, which is invested in it very extensively. The logs are floated down the streams to the mills, where they are cut up into planks and scantlings of all shapes, sorts, and sizes, which are placed on the market for home and foreign use.

The Experimental Farm. Having called upon the Deputy-Minister of the Interior, Mr. A. M. Burgess, we were instructed to go forward to Winnipeg. But before doing so we were shown over the Houses of Parliament, which are handsome buildings, well situated, in the midst of the city. We were also taken to the experimental farm which is carried on at the expense of the Government.

This institution is one of several which were established some years ago for the purpose of experimenting and giving advice to farmers as to the best methods of conducting their business, managing their crops, &c. Each department is carried on under the able management of an expert, who is thoroughly up to his business—for instance, there is the dairy department, where different samples and kinds of milk are tested, as to their capabilities of producing cream, butter, cheese, &c.—also the best methods of feeding the animals with a view to those different products, and the animals best suited for these different purposes. There are Shorthorns, Holsteins, Angus, Jerseys, Ayrshires, &c.

They also test the growth and germinating power of all kinds of farm seeds and grain, and endeavour to show which are the most profitable sorts, and most suitable for different soils and situations. This, of course, is a great advantage to the farmers of each district where these farms are situated, for they can send their seed to be tested, and get advice as to the best methods of cultivating the soil which they occupy, and also obtain 3 lbs. of the best seeds, grain, or potatoes of any kind, free of charge to them, to be tested on their own farms. If the seed proves a failure, it is thrown on one side; but if successful, they have the means of sowing it again and increasing the quantity, and establishing a stock. There is a laboratory also for testing the quality of manures, the nature of soils, and

genuineness of seeds, milk, cattle food, &c. The professor in charge is able to give information to anyone who requires it. They have tested nearly 2,000 samples of all kinds during the last year, showing the use that is made of this establishment by the farmers all over the country.

Experiments have also been made in horse-feeding, and it is found that a mixture of horsebeans, sunflower seed, and maize, chopped and mixed up together and made into ensilage (the stalks from the sunflowers being excluded, and only the heads used) is a very economical and efficient mode of feeding. All classes of pigs are kept, but the Yorkshire and Berkshire are the most profitable and most useful for general purposes. The Tamworth are thought a good deal about, on account of the large proportion of lean meat they produce. Poultry is kept in large numbers. The houses are built on the most improved style. An expert superintends this department, and gives information on the various breeds. The grasses are a great feature; almost every variety of native and foreign were growing in small plots, side by side, to test their qualities and comparative value, and suitability for different soils and purposes.

A very pleasant and instructive afternoon was spent at this establishment, which is quite close to the city. The farm consists of 460 acres of land, which the Government have bought and placed under the able management of Professor Saunders, who with his staff of assistants is making very great improvements, and developing the resources of the place. Mr. William Ellis, who went out from near Thirsk, Yorkshire, is attached to the staff, in the gardening department, and is doing very well.

En route to The next day we started about one o'clock in the morning
Winnipeg. for Winnipeg, where we were to get our final instructions. Having tumbled into our berths, we slept fairly well until morning, when we washed, dressed, and had our meals all on board, as we were travelling along. The track passes through a vast stretch of country which is unfit for cultivation—being a rocky surface, with little or no soil on it; but a thin forest of trees, mostly spruce, is spread over as far as the eye can reach on either side. Some of them nearest to the railway have been destroyed by fire, giving it a blackened, desolate appearance. These fires are caused by sparks from the engines, and do a great deal of damage. Here and there we come to a flat place covered with a thin crust of soil, in some cases sandy, in others a boggy peat, but the industry of man has made the best of it, and he has built his little hut, hewed down the trees, extracted their stumps, &c., and has put in the plough and the spade, and planted his seed, and in due time he reaps his harvest—which is done in some cases in a very primitive fashion, namely, by the sickle. The cattle seem to thrive fairly well on the short herbage amongst the rocks, or in the long grass of the forest. Occasionally we could see pieces of clover, which appeared healthy; they get good crops of it, and make hay of the produce, which comes in very useful for winter fodder. After two or three years lay, they plough it out again and sow with wheat or oats. Very little pains are taken with the hay stacks; they seemed to be more like dirty hay pikes, with no thatch on them.

However, they come in very useful in winter, and the stock eat them well, especially when there is a little maize meal sprinkled over the chopped



CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY DINING CAR.

fodder. The stacks do not take so much harm as they would with us, owing to the dryness of the weather. There are numerous rivers and lakes, which abound with fish of very fine quality. There is the large white fish, three kinds of bass, trout, and other varieties, and no license to pay for catching them. These streams are a very available and easy means of floating down the timber from a distance to the sawmills, which are situated all along the line of railway. The large crickets and grasshoppers keep up a continual chirping, and there is no lack of music of this kind, but there are no song birds.

We were getting breakfast as the train passed along the north shore of Lake Superior, and the view was continually changing. We looked and saw the great water stretching away as far as the eye could reach. We looked again and a number of islands could be seen raising their rocky heads, with wood covered

summits, above the surface of the water. Again we looked as the engine was coming round a bend in the track, and there was a beautiful bay at our feet, the white, shining shingle on the opposite shore sparkling in the light, the waters between being tinted with green and purple, the reflection of the rocks and woods above, and in other places a lovely blue. On the right huge rocks rise perpendicularly to a great height above the track, the hard base having been blasted away to make room for the sleepers.

This magnificent ride is of course uninteresting from an agricultural point of view; but the country is full of minerals and destined some day to become the home of many people, who will develop its resources, and bring them into the market to supply the wants of the world, whilst they themselves will require to be fed from the distant fields, and provide a market for the produce of the West. Fine water communication is obtained from Port Arthur and Fort William at the western extremity of Thunder Bay, on the north-west shore of Lake Superior, with all points east and south touching the States and Southern Ontario, by Lakes Huron and Michigan, thus affording an alternate route. Vessels can proceed from Lake Superior to Montreal by means of the grand canal system of the country.

The scenery from the head of the lake to Winnipeg is very interesting, wild, and beautiful. There are lakes innumerable of all shapes and sizes, studded with little islands, the homes of innumerable wild fowl. Cataracts and waterfalls attract your attention on every hand—in fact, it is a literal paradise to the artistic eye.

When we reached Winnipeg about 6 o'clock on Friday morning, September 1st, we were met by Mr. G. J. Cox, of the Crown Lands Department, and taken to the Manitoba Hotel, a very large and admirably-conducted place.

Evidently the inhabitants have great faith in the future of their city, for the buildings generally and appointments are far in excess of its present requirements. The streets are very wide and pleasantly laid out; the electric car, telephone, and electric light are in general use, and there is no crowding, as is the case in too many of our large towns. The growth of the place is astonishing, for when General Wolseley led his force in 1870 from Fort William to Fort Garry (as it then was called), there were only about 100 inhabitants; now there are nearly 30,000, and it is the capital of the famous wheat-growing province of Manitoba, and the great emporium of the Western world—destined one day to become the Chicago of Canada.

In the neighbourhood, within a radius of 20 miles, are rich lands to sell, at from \$7 to \$20 per acre (a dollar is about 4s.). Many of these farms are owned by speculators, or have passed into the hands of mortgagees, owing to the depression which succeeded the great boom of a few years ago, when the price of land went up by leaps and bounds. Now the land-fever has subsided, good cultivated farms with house and buildings upon them, may be bought at very reasonable prices, and it would probably pay a man with capital far better to buy these places, situated as they are so near a market, than to go westward to the uncultivated lands out there.

The Climate and Products. Amongst other places, we visited the stock farm of Sir Donald Smith, at Silver Heights, a little way out of the town, where he keeps a herd of buffaloes—supposed to be almost the last remaining of the vast herds which used to roam over the prairies. It seems a great pity that so noble a beast should be so nearly wiped out of existence. They have been killed by the Indians in hundreds of thousands, for their hides and tongues.

It must be a healthy climate, the children look so rosy, robust, and well, and the doctors complain hard of having very little to do—which, of course, is a recommendation in itself. Market gardening is a great feature near the city, and we saw flowers and fruits in great abundance, rich crops of onions, melons, cucumbers, tomatoes, growing in the open, some of them of large size, and very fine in flavour. A ready market is found in the town for potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables at remunerative prices.

Portage-la-Prairie. Proceeding from Winnipeg in a westerly direction, we came to the great wheat-growing district of Manitoba, and, commencing at Portage-la-Prairie, we passed along the Manitoba and North-Western line to Russell, calling at the Sanford Ranch, Westbourne, Neepawa, Minnedosa, and Binscarth, on the way. We spent a day or two at each, driving round the country, interviewing the farmers, and inquiring into the state of things generally in order to see what prospect there was for farmers settling out there. Many were the pertinent and impertinent questions we asked these gentlemen, but invariably received the utmost courtesy from them, and a free answer to our questions. Almost without exception we elicited the fact that they were doing well, and would not return to the Old Country.

Mr. Brydon's Farm. For instance, Mr. F. Brydon—Section 7, Township 12, Range 7, Portage-la-Prairie—said that he had no capital when he came out, but had to borrow in order to purchase his farm of 320 acres, now worth \$25 per acre; that he had all clear now, and had bought another quarter-section adjoining, at \$25 per acre, which also was free of debt. His farm was well stocked; he had 12 horses, 3 foals, 24 head of cattle, and had 200 acres under wheat (which was being stacked), 60 acres in barley and mixed grain for feeding purposes; also 60 acres of prairie hay. This was only one specimen of how men had got on, but instances might be cited without number.

Matters of General Interest to Farmers. The threshing machines were just beginning to work. Many of the farmers let their wheat stand out until it is in first-rate condition, and, after it is threshed, take it straight to the elevator, where it is stored; and it is paid for according to the market price. As most of the produce will grade No. 1 hard, they expect to get the top price this year, though that is not a very good one, and the price will not leave them very much profit. They calculate that 40 cents (1s. 8d.) per bushel of 60 lbs. will cover all the cost of production from sowing to selling, with interest on capital, cost of living, rent,

rates, and taxes all included, so that all they get over that price is clear profit; but as wheat is only selling at about 50 cents per bushel, and as low as 48 cents in some places, according to the distance it has to be brought to the railway—taking an average of 25 bushels per acre at 4d.—they are making 8s. 4d. clear profit. As prices increase, and they can hardly remain much longer at the present unusually low figure, so will the profits be greater.

The farmers in this neighbourhood are beginning to turn their attention more to stock-rearing, and are sowing down part of their land with timothy grass for hay, in order to provide for them in winter. This is very nutritive food, and cattle and horses do well on it, especially when it is mixed with a little wheat meal or other feeding stuff.

Turnips cannot be grown extensively, owing to the expense of storing during winter, and keeping them free from frost. Some have contrived large cellars, or pits, underground, sometimes cut out of the side of a hill, in which they can secure the produce of two or three acres.

The winters are very cold, the frost reaching sometimes, but very rarely, to 50° below zero; but it is dry and bracing. In many places the cattle and horses are turned out all winter, to provide for themselves, and feed on the pea vine and wild vetch, which grow in great abundance, especially in the bush. The buffalo grass, which is cured naturally in the autumn when on the ground, is very valuable and highly nutritious. The animals brush off the snow with their noses or with their feet, as the case may be, and it is astonishing how well they look and thrive upon it. Of course, this is supplemented, in many cases, with advantage, by the addition of a little shelter, and timothy, or marsh hay, at nights, and the animals soon learn to come up for it.

In this neighbourhood, a two-year-old bullock, if in good condition, will fetch from £6 to £8. Good pasturage is often found in the more thickly populated parts (where the land is nearly all taken up and devoted to crops) on the road allowance, which consists of 99 ft. (from fence to fence) round every section or square mile.

They can turn over from 4 to 5 acres per day, from 4 to 5 inches deep, with a gang plough and three to four horses, and can drill about 15 acres per day, broadcast or otherwise, and the men ride on the implements. They sow from 1½ to 2 bushels per acre.

The average price of fencing in a quarter-section of 160 acres, where all has to be paid for, is calculated at from £50 to £60 for three strands of wire and posts; the barbed wire is very much the best where wood is scarce, and forms a very good fence, but rather dangerous to horses.

The cost of threshing wheat in this neighbourhood is 4 cents, or 2d. per bushel; the owner of the thresher finds men, and the farmer carts the grain to and from the thresher, and they claim to be able to thresh from 1,000 to 2,000 bushels of grain per day, but they work long hours.

A good all-round man will obtain from \$18 to \$25 per month, and board and lodging. Some men are hired for eight months in the year to do farm work, and then when the winter time comes they go

to the woods to chop timber at \$1 per day. Of course there is not so much farm work in the winter time, and consequently they do not want so many hands, as the work consists chiefly in attending to the cattle, hauling and chopping timber, taking their wheat to market, and preparing their fence poles and posts for another year. The roads are good in winter time, being frozen up and covered with snow, so that the hauling is chiefly done by sleighs—a very easy means of transit.

The ploughing has to be done either after harvest or in the spring, when the snow goes away. It is very important to get it done as soon as possible after the frost breaks up, in order to get the seed in early. This insures an early harvest, reduces the risk from frost in the autumn time, and often saves the crop.

Each township is 6 miles square, and divided into 36 sections of 1 mile each way, so that there are 36 square miles in each township, starting at the south-east corner, counting backwards and forwards, numbering up to 36. These again are divided into quarter-sections of 160 acres, so that there are 640 acres in a section of land, and 23,040 acres in a township, exclusive of the road allowance, which is in most places 99 feet round every square section.

Two sections, or 1,280 acres, in every township are devoted to school purposes, and are available to sell or let to provide funds for education. Of course the school question is one of first-rate importance to everyone who has children, and to those who take an interest in the welfare of their country. They have an excellent system of education in Canada. It lies within the power of three ratepayers, two of whom being heads of families, to demand a school in any district where there are 10 children of school age capable of attending, provided that those children have not more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to walk from their homes to the school; so that no man need fear that his children will be brought up in ignorance around him.

In religion, too, there is generally ample provision. In the large towns there are many large churches, filled at worship time with devoted congregations, and very great respect is paid to the Sabbath. In the villages, also, provision is made for the spiritual wants, and in every new settlement it is their first thought to build a sanctuary. There is a friendly feeling amongst the various denominations, and there is none of that assumed superiority of one church over another, because of its organisation being older than the rest. The Methodists stand first in point of numbers in Manitoba and the North-West Territories; the Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Church of England stand well; and all other denominations are represented.

Before leaving Portage-la-Prairie we had a look over *Flour Mills.* one of the large flour mills and elevators which are so numerous in this neighbourhood, owned by the Lake of the Woods Milling Company. The engine, of three hundred horsepower, was built by Messrs. Goldie, McCulloch, & Co., Limited, Galt, Ontario, and would do credit to any engineering firm in the Old Country. They get their water from five artesian wells. They are sunk into the sandy subsoil, and a good supply is thus procured, and pumped up into the boilers after being warmed by the waste steam.

Wood is burnt for fuel. The driving wheel is 17 ft. in diameter, and carries a belt 92 ft. long by 37 in. They have arrangements for dealing with 1,300 bushels of wheat per hour from the cars on the railway, which come close up to the elevator, and can store 175,000 bushels.

On our way from Portage we drove over a fine farming district. There are no vacant homesteads just here, though there is plenty of land in the market to be purchased at prices ranging from \$10 to \$20 per acre. We called at many farmsteads on the way, interviewing the farmers, and making inquiries as to their prospects, &c. Mr. Bell, of Section 9, Township 12, Range 6, had been in the district 20 years, and at first homesteaded 160 acres, and had two horses to stock it with; he now owns 640 acres, having bought the remainder, of which 330 acres are in wheat, 70 in oats, the rest in fallow, odd crops, and prairie meadow. He has 25 horses young and old, to work it with.

Mr. James Bray farms 700 acres; has 620 acres in wheat, 80 acres in timothy meadow; his capital to start with was \$350; he has been out 15 years, and has a herd of 26 pure bred Jerseys (14 in milk), and makes butter which sells at 20 to 30 cents per lb. in Portage-la-Prairie; also 17 horses, 30 Oxford Down sheep, 30 pigs, Yorkshire breed. He keeps four men all the year, six extra in harvest. He has two large barns built of wood.

Towards evening we came to the farm of Mr. Walter Lynch where, we saw a grand bull ("Village Hero"), bred by Crookshanks, and half-brother to the winner at Chicago, and a herd of Shorthorn cattle that would do credit to any man in Yorkshire. Very great credit is due to Mr. Lynch for his success, and he is spreading good blood throughout the province.

In the evening we arrived at the Hon. Senator Sanford's ranch, Westbourne, and put up there for the night.

Mr. Sanford owns a large quantity of land in this neighbourhood, and has some 8,000 acres for sale at from \$5 to \$10 per acre, according to situation. He also assists settlers with loans of money on advantageous terms, which may be had of any of his agents, or from himself, at Hamilton, Ontario. On this ranch there are about 300 head of cattle and 200 horses—amongst them several Yorkshire stallions—50 pigs, and about 150 acres under crop for cattle feed. We saw a very fine piece of alfalfa, or lucerne, which does well on this soil; it grows a heavy crop, and is very valuable for winter feed. Pork is worth about 6½ cents per lb., cured, in this neighbourhood.

They frequently sow barley as late as June, and it ripens very quickly; but this is dangerous, as it is liable to be caught by the frost; indeed, they are subject to an occasional frost throughout the North-West, which works sad havoc with the wheat when it is in a milky state, and occasions great loss. This, however, only comes occasionally, but when it does come woe betide the farmer who has nothing else but wheat to depend upon. Mr. Davis, the manager, said that he had 1,200 acres destroyed in one night, August 22nd, 1885, and this almost beggared him and caused him to give up farming on his own

account. This is a very exceptional case, but shows the necessity of not putting all your eggs into one basket. Mixed farming is more safe, and surer to hit the markets, for when one thing won't sell another will perhaps.

From this point westward, we passed through a district of greater variety of natural scenery than any we had yet come to on the Manitoba and North-Western line. The next point reached was Neepawa, a nice little town of about 1,000 inhabitants, and were met by Mr. Davidson, the M.P.P. for the district, who kindly showed us round.

Amongst other places, we visited that of Mr. David Munroe, and found him stacking wheat in the field. He owns a whole section, 640 acres, half of which he bought in 1889, and gave \$1,600 for it, \$5 per acre; the east half he purchased in 1891 for \$4,500, a little over \$14 per acre, and it is worth twice as much now. He came out with £47 in 1889, and is worth about £2,000 now; he is very methodical, and keeps a profit and loss account of everything relating to the farm. He furnished us with a calculation of the cost of wheat growing per acre, including interest on capital, labour, and living, which he stated was, on an average for 25 bushels per acre, \$6.69. In some cases the farmers let all the work to be done on hire at \$6 to \$8 per acre, including ploughing, sowing, and reaping. Ploughing alone costs about 60 cents, or in our money, 2s. 6d. per acre. Mr. Munroe has 8 milk beasts, 7 young beasts, 13 horses, 9 of which work on the land, 11 pigs, 1 shire stallion, and 2 good brood mares, which have foals. He has a large family also, and four of his sons help him on the farm; the others are too young to work. He employs one man all the year round, and two more for eight months at \$20 per month and board. \$10 per month, during the winter, is the usual wages on the farm, with board, but out in the woods a man can earn \$1 per day wood-chopping. Some of the farmers do a little in the way of market gardening, which pays very well in this district. The price of onions is \$1½ per bushel, and they grow large crops. Mixed farming is the best, but the farmers generally have too little capital, and prefer to put their profits into buying more land rather than to increase the stock, which I think is a mistake sometimes. There are plenty of Government lands to be had a little north of this neighbourhood, of very good quality.

Wednesday, Sep. 6th.—Mr. Davidson, M.P.P., who accompanied us yesterday, again went with us to-day and showed us over his place, which is a few miles from town, and consists of a whole section (640 acres). He is making great improvements, and is going in for cattle-rearing and fattening in the winter time, and with an eye to this he is erecting a large establishment in which to tie up 60 head of cattle, with chop house, large granary, silos, and pulping apparatus attached. The machinery will be driven by wind power, which is very cheap and reliable during the winter months. He intends to grow turnips and store them in a large pit made for the purpose close to the barn and impervious to the frost. His large piggeries and poultry houses are on the most improved principle. He calculates that he can run the place with three men at \$200 per year each. The beef and pork will be sent over to the English market.

Good Openings for Small Farmers. There appears to be a good opening for men with a little capital in this neighbourhood, also for a limited number of labourers, who can make good wages and soon save sufficient money to take up a homestead.

It is very important, however, to know who one is working for. Money is so scarce that it is difficult at times to get the pay when it is due, and often a man will take a sheep or a beast in lieu of wages, which, of course, will suit very well as a rule if he is a homesteader, for by this means he is enabled to stock his holding. Most of the men we interviewed had come out with very little capital, and had worked their way up, and appeared to be very contented. There was no grumbling against rents, or finding fault with landlords, as each man is his own landlord, and whatever he does in the way of improvement is on his own property. He has no fear of being made to pay an extra sum for it in the way of rent, and there is no fear of the landlord appropriating the tenant's unexhausted improvements. The taxes also are very light, only amounting to from \$8 to \$10 per quarter-section, and in some cases less than that.

Cattle Shipments. We saw a herd of fat cattle which were brought down to the railway station to be shipped for the English market. They were mostly big, rough bullocks. We weighed one of them, and it scaled 1,980 lbs., and was worth 3 cents per lb., live weight. It would cost 3 cents per lb. more to bring it over. They would not, however, make top price, owing to their roughness, but they would supply a class of customers in our large towns who would never be able to taste fresh meat if it were not for this supply. They are not all so rough as these I now refer to were, for they breed and fatten some animals as fine as we can produce at home.

Farm Pupils—Premiums. It is a mistake for farmers or anybody else to send their sons out here with plenty of money in their pockets to learn farming, at high premiums, with some gentleman who professes to teach them the ways of the country. They had far better go to an experienced farmer and work for their victuals, if they are not worth wages, until they have gained sufficient experience to look out for themselves.

Some parents make another mistake in sending their sons out with a certain amount of capital, but with no experience. The consequence is, sharpers get hold of them and fleece them of their money on all sides. Too often these young fellows come fresh from college, with preconceived ideas of what they are going to do, and start farming on the gentleman system, with kid gloves, and fish, shoot, and drive about; spending their time and money at the bar-room, playing at cards, billiards, &c., until they have nothing left—when they go home, and give the place a bad character. Fathers and guardians cannot be too careful in placing their sons, and would do well to give them little money at first, and put them with some plain practical farmer, and make them work for their living the first year or two, if only for their board, until they have gained sufficient experience to understand the land, and to look out for themselves. This cannot be too deeply impressed.

Improved Farms. There are plenty of improved farms to sell (that is, land that has been in hand for a little while), where there may be a considerable portion broken up, and a log house built. Of course, it is an advantage to be able to put in a crop the first season, without having to wait a year in order to prepare the land for the next; but these are only available to those who have money to purchase them with. These lands may often be bought on advantageous terms, such as one-half down, and the balance over six or eight years in equal instalments, bearing interest at 6 or 8 per cent.

Free Grants of Land. A settler who wishes to homestead first goes to the Government land agent in the locality in which he wants to settle. He is then provided with a map of the district showing the various homesteads waiting to be taken up. A land guide then goes with him and shows him over these lands; and, having looked them over and made his choice, he returns to the land office, pays the fee of \$10, and his name is entered in the books as the occupier of that quarter-section. If he builds a house, ploughs and cultivates a few acres, and resides on his holding for so many months, as the case may be, during the next three years, he gets his patent or title without anything further to pay—the land is his, to do what he likes with. He should be very particular about his conditions, and have them endorsed at the back of his receipt, so that there may be no room for dispute after, as these laws are occasionally changed.

The Growth of Wheat. The wheat seldom gets laid as it does with us, especially on rich land, owing to the less rainfall. The straw does not get so rank and coarse, and seldom rusts, but grows short and stiff, and keeps up well. Though there seems to be a lack of moisture from above, the grain rarely suffers, for a wonderful provision of nature secures a constant supply of moisture to the roots of the plants. The winter's frost penetrates so deeply into the land that it does not all get out at once, but is constantly thawing during the summer months, and so feeds the plants with moisture from this source.

Neepawa to Minnedosa. We arrived at Minnedosa after a long drive from Neepawa, taking in as much of the country as we could on the way. It is rather rough and broken, with more varied scenery of wood and valley, chiefly adapted for mixed farming; and we saw a good many cattle grazing on the unenclosed prairie by the way. There are many good situations for farmsteads and charming sites for villa residences in this district.

Grain Stacks—Fine Weather. The weather has been beautiful since we left Ottawa—fine, bright, sunny days, with a cool, pleasant breeze to temper the atmosphere—and owing to the dryness and freedom from rain at this season of the year, the farmers have no concern about their grain, but leave it standing in the fields without fear until it is hard enough for milling purposes, when they stack it where it is grown, and never thatch it. The stacks are built up about 3 ft. from the ground, and then tapered to a point, and are placed two together ready for the thresher.

Hailstorms. Unfortunately, they are subject to sudden severe hailstorms throughout the province of Manitoba, which do great damage to the crops at times. They are very local, sometimes touching a corner of a field and passing over the rest; the higher lands seem to be the most free from them.

Every Man his own Landlord. One great advantage in this country is that a man is in no danger of being rented upon his own improvements; he homesteads according to Government regulations, or he buys his land of someone else and pays for it by instalments, unless he has money to cover the purchase. He enters upon it, and whatever he spends upon it in improvements is his own absolute property. If he goes too fast and gets into debt, that is his own fault, and dearly he may have to pay for it. Though these men may not have much capital, they have been successful in becoming possessed of their own estate, building up a homestead, and bringing up their families in plenty and comfort—a result which they would not be able to attain were they to remain in the Old Country and live a hundred years.

We met with several cases where the thresher was at work after the first year's breaking, and the first crop was producing 30 bushels per acre of No. 1 hard—which is the first quality. They feed the engines with straw generally; it is so plentiful, and costs less in labour than any other fuel—though coal is used in some districts and wood in others.

There is a great deal of land in this neighbourhood waiting for the hand of man to till it—virgin soil, rich in plant food, which will grow crops for 20 years in succession, if kept clean, without the necessity of a handful of manure. It is composed of decayed vegetable matter, which has accumulated for ages, and now forms a rich layer from 6 to 20 inches deep—in some places more than that even—and forms a fine rich black mould, well decomposed, finely divided, and easily cultivated.

Contented Settlers. We arrived at Russell after a long drive from Binscarth, at 10 o'clock at night. The next day being Sunday, we all went to church, and heard a good sermon from the Methodist minister. It was parade day for the Foresters' club, and there was a good congregation of eager listeners. During the next few days we visited the district, calling upon a number of settlers as usual, inquiring after their prospects in life, and finding them very contented and prosperous. One man had been a labourer, and had gone out from England with £10 in his pocket. He worked for wages for a while at first, and then entered upon his homestead of 160 acres. Subsequently he bought the adjoining 160 acres, sent for his parents, and paid their passages over. He now possesses 640 acres, with a large herd of Shorthorns of very good quality and size. This neighbourhood is famous for cattle rearing, and there are many herds in the district.

Dr. Barnardo's Farm. Dr. Barnardo has a Home here, and a large farm. We visited it, and found everything in good order. They go in for making butter and cheese, and have a large dairy with the latest machinery and best appliances. They turn out a very good article and find a ready sale for it.

We afterwards tasted their butter on the dining-cars of the Canadian Pacific Railway. About 50 cows and two Shorthorn bulls (one the gift of Lord Polwarth) are kept. They take in the milk from the surrounding district of 10 miles round, and pay the farmers according to the average of butter fat contained in their milk. We saw in the farm the best stacks in Manitoba, put up by the boys, who are taught to labour, and afterwards make good settlers—in some cases as labourers, or on homesteads of their own. This is a capital institution, and well worthy of support. It is under the able management of Mr. A. E. Struthers, who showed us round, and was very cordial in giving us all the information we required. This is a fine grazing district, suitable for mixed farming. There are plenty of farms to sell in the neighbourhood, at from \$3 to \$8 per acre for unimproved lands, comparatively near the station; and a great deal also to be had on Government terms.

Assessipi. to the north of Russell, on the Shell River, is a fine district, and there are several thriving settlers in it. We saw some splendid bullocks, which are a good testimony to the quality of the feed. We met Mr. Gill, who went out from Leicestershire many years ago with his wife and family. They have done very well and are carrying on business in the lumber trade. They have a flour mill also, and general store, and do a good trade with the Indians. Mrs. Gill and the rest of the family agreed that they would not return to England, and that this was a capital place for invalids, especially those affected with chest diseases. Many of the farmers in this neighbourhood turn their stock out all winter, and let them find for themselves during the day-time in the bush. They feed on the pea-vine and wild vetch which grow in abundance, and is very nutritious food. At night they are brought in and given a little slough hay, made from the rough, coarse grass which grows in low places where the water does not get off after the melting of the snow until about midsummer. This grass, which grows very rapidly, is very nutritious, and makes good hay; the animals eat it with avidity, and it is surprising how well they thrive upon it.

It is a matter of importance that a man should have *Hay Meadows.* one or two of these hay meadows on his holding; but if he has not any he can get permission to mow a certain quantity on the Government reserves, according to the quantity of stock he has, upon payment of a small fee. This is a very good provision made for the benefit of the settlers throughout the country.

Wednesday 13th.—We left Russell by train about 3 o'clock in the morning. Having arrived at Neepawa, about 100 miles east of Russell, on the Manitoba and North-Western line, we called again at Mrs. Richardson's, and then drove over to Carberry, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, about 30 miles away. The first part of the journey is through a fertile district; then we came to some sandy ridges, which are not so productive; but the latter half of the way is through a beautiful plain, which is well farmed and very productive. We saw some capital crops grown on a rich black loam. The town is in its infancy, but

evidently growing and in a thriving condition. They have the electric light and other conveniences. We stayed the night and made up a party next morning, the two M.P.'s joining us, and drove round the district visiting the farmers, who seem to have done remarkably well. In my opinion, however, there will not be the same chance to get rich by corn-growing in the future that there has been in the past, owing to the depreciation in values, but stock-farming holds out a good hope. Many of the farmers were busy threshing, and the yield, though not large, was fairly satisfactory, and produced over 20 bushels of wheat per acre; oats over 50. The value of land runs about \$20 per acre for cultivated farms, with house and buildings.

In the evening we took the train for Brandon, where we stayed all night, and the next day looked over the Government experimental farm, where we saw a large collection of grasses, native and foreign; also a great many different kinds of grain, some of which had been grown in the country, while others had been imported for experimental purposes. The place is well managed under the superintendence of Mr. S. A. Bedford, of whom information may be obtained by the farmers in the district. The machinery is driven by wind-power, on the American principle, which is very easily adjusted and very cheap, only costing about \$35, exclusive of the shaft.

Brandon and District. Brandon has often been described, and it is not to the purpose that I should dwell on the industries of this thriving little town. We drove round it in all directions, and were satisfied with the capabilities of

the soil. There are many farms to be purchased in this neighbourhood at reasonable prices, ranging from \$10 to \$30 per acre, but no homesteads under Government regulations. Many farmers make a great mistake in purchasing too many implements on credit; if the times are against them, so that they cannot meet their engagements, they have either to be sold up or pay very heavy interest. A farmer had far better buy breeding stock, sure to increase in value and be productive, than invest in unnecessary machinery, which soon deteriorates in value. Two or more farmers might often join together and make one binder do for them instead of having one each. I spent a very pleasant Sunday in Brandon, and proceeded to Qu'Appelle on the Monday morning, where I picked up the rest of the party, they having gone forward to Indian Head on Sunday morning. I must here acknowledge my obligation to Mr. Ord, of the Government Land Office for his kindness. He is a member of an old Yorkshire family (Ord-Powlett).

The Road to Fort Qu'Appelle. From the village of Qu'Appelle we drove on to Fort Qu'Appelle, a distance of 20 miles north. On our way we passed through a good country, part of it taken up and well cultivated. Some of it is held by speculators and land companies, of whom it may be bought at from \$5 to £8 per acre. The fort is an old Hudson Bay Co.'s fort, and is beautifully situated in a valley, on a level plateau, betwixt two lakes; indeed, there is a chain of lakes extending over 100 miles east and west. The valley and the river take their names from an interesting old Indian legend. The scenery along each side of the valley is very peculiar, and

constantly changing in its aspect. There are many little valleys, hills and dales, knolls and pockets, and here and there an Indian's grave,



CATTLE ON THE HYDE FARM, QU'APPELLE VALLEY.

which adds solemnity to the weird look which all things around bear. There is an Indian reserve not far off, where they are comfortably settled. We passed through their village, but found that most of them were away in the distant harvest fields on the Portage Plains helping the settlers.

To the north of Qu'Appelle is a very fine district of *A Good District.* park-like lands, well suited for mixed farming, especially for grazing purposes, and open to homesteading. There is abundance of rich prairie grass, which the buffaloes were so fond of; it is called buffalo grass. Good water is found at from 12 ft. to 20 ft. The water question is one of importance, as often the surface water is not very good, owing to the quantity of alkali it contains, and wells have to be dug below this strata in order to secure a supply of good water. There are plenty of poplar bluffs to afford shelter and wood for all purposes.

The shooting throughout the district is good, and wild duck, geese, and pelicans abound all along the lakes. The drive on the north shore of the lake to the Indian industrial school is beautiful. The school is a Roman Catholic institution; the Indian children are taught the arts of civilised life, such as reading, writing, and arithmetic; the boys do joiners' and blacksmiths' work, and farming; the girls knit, sew, and cook, and many of them afterwards go into domestic service and make good servants. The priests were very cordial; they brought out the band, and we had a few tunes before we left. It is wonderful how well some of these little fellows can play after a few months' training. We then returned to the station and took the cars for Regina, the capital of the North-

West Territories, which has a population of a little over 2,000 people. A great deal of wild fruit grows, throughout these northern districts, which is very useful and makes good preserves. The wild cherry, saskatoon, wild rasp, black currants, strawberries, and cranberries, are found in abundance.

Regina and District. This town is situated in the midst of a vast plain stretching for 60 miles. On either side is a rolling prairie covered with the short grass peculiar to it, and here and there is a bit of cultivation. The soil is mostly a strong loam, with a considerable amount of clay in it, which makes it very sticky after frost and in wet weather. The headquarters of the North-West Mounted Police is at Regina. They have a good riding school and every accommodation. The officials were very kind in showing us round. These men are stationed in outposts nearly all over the North-West; their duty is to keep the Indians in order and maintain peace generally. The Lieutenant-Governor of the Territories has his residence near the town. There is a German settlement to the north, through which we passed on our way to Ellensford, the residence of a Mr. Barton. Mrs. Barton said they had been very unfortunate once in losing all their produce by a prairie fire, which swept across the plains; but they had done well since, and were very happy and contented, and would not go back to the Old Country upon any consideration. Fortunately these prairie fires become less frequent as the land is cultivated. After shooting a few prairie chickens and wild ducks we returned to the town, where we took train for Prince Albert the same evening.

Prince Albert. *Saturday, September 23rd.*—We arrived at Prince Albert about 9 o'clock in the morning, having travelled all night and slept on board. After looking round the town we went out in the afternoon to see the country. We drove about 15 miles south, down the valley of the Saskatchewan, and called upon several of the settlers, then crossed the railway, and passing through a good country, struck a farm where they were threshing wheat. It was a good crop, but had lots of smut in it, owing to their neglect in not dressing the seed. The land is a rich deep loam, and will grow any crop when well cultivated.

We next called upon Mr. Tom McKay, the Provincial M.P., a half-breed of prepossessing appearance, a thorough practical man, and a good farmer. He has 900 acres—300 under wheat, the rest in grass, and other crops and fallow. There is plenty of wood about for firewood, fencing, and shelter for cattle. From here we struck off home again—having first driven to the top of Red Deer Hill—where we had a magnificent view of the country around, and got to our hotel about 7 o'clock.

This has been a fine day. The prophets tell us that we are to have a month of this weather after now. They have generally a few sharp nights and a frosty day or two in the middle or latter part of September, then commences what they call their Indian summer. The town of Prince Albert is beautifully situated on the south bank of the River Saskatchewan, and is a thriving little place, with a large saw-mill

and police barracks; as at other places, the electric light prevails. The Saskatchewan is a noble river, from 300 to 400 yards wide, and is navigable to steamers of light draught for a considerable distance; and very picturesque they look as they speed along.

On the Monday morning we organised a party, and drove out in the police vans, some thirty miles south-east of the town, across the South Saskatchewan, near to the Carrot River. We camped by the house of a half-breed named Harper, who has a quarter-section, and 70 acres under cultivation.

The next morning we were up early, and started off by another route to the town. We passed through some park-like lands in this district, well wooded with light timber, such as white poplar, spruce, &c. Beautiful glades stretch away before you, with copses interspersed, which add to the beauty of the scene. The soil is rich loam, very deep, and not too heavy. One great advantage of this part, and all the North-West, is that the settlers have not to spend a lifetime in clearing it of the bush. Where there is scrub of any kind, it is only necessary to light a fire in the autumn, burn it all off, then put in the plough, the spade, and the harrow—the brush plough will go through all the roots. Hay sloughs, too, and small lakes, with plenty of wild-fowl, are very abundant. This is a very desirable locality for settlers. There is a prospect of the railway being continued in the immediate future northward to Hudson's Bay, and this will make communication with England easier, and cheapen the cost of transit; but of course this route will only, in any case, be available during the summer months. We left here on the evening of the 27th, by rail, for Regina, at which place we arrived the next morning about 9 o'clock.

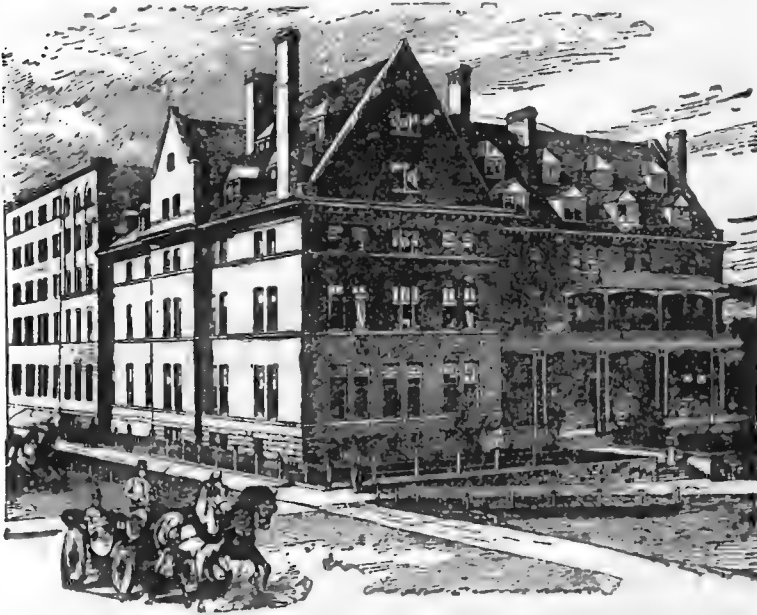
We left Regina on Thursday, September 28th, in the afternoon, about 4 o'clock, and proceeded on our journey towards the Rocky Mountains. After reaching Calgary (of which I shall have to speak again) we reached the foot-hills, where there are several ranches, and large herds of cattle feeding on both sides of the railway.

In passing along to Vancouver, in British Columbia, we called at several stations of more or less importance, including Banff, which is in the National Park, a great reservation, 26 miles long and 16 miles wide. The scenery in the neighbourhood is beautiful. The well-known hot springs are here; and there are deposits of valuable coal in the neighbourhood.

All along the Fraser River are Indians' stands, like little platforms, made of wicker work, hung over the water, where the Indians come year by year to catch the fish as they come up the river, and dry them for their winter food. They catch a large quantity of salmon; but the best fish are caught nearer to the river's mouth, when they come fresh from the sea. They lose condition as they ascend the stream, and are not so good; we saw very large quantities of them as we passed along the river side.

In the mountains are rich deposits of minerals. Gold and silver are found in considerable quantities, and iron in abundance; gold is washed out of the deposits by the river side. Numbers of Chinese

make a living by this means. They live upon very little, and if they can make but \$1 per day they soon get rich (in their own estimation), and return to their native land.



CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY HOTEL, VANCOUVER.

We arrived at Vancouver City on Saturday afternoon three hours late, after being on the cars from Thursday, and having travelled a distance of 1,125 miles from Regina; the scenery in the mountains is indescribable. It is the most grand and awe-inspiring that ever I witnessed.

There are many places of interest along the road, both from a commercial and agricultural point of view, but it is impossible to deal with them in this report.

British Columbia, which is about three times the size of Great Britain and Ireland, is generally considered to be one of the finest provinces of the Dominion. Situated as it is to the west of the Rocky Mountains, on the Pacific Coast, it enjoys a milder climate—in fact, very like our own, only a little warmer—with more rain and less snow, and not much frost in winter. Though very mountainous a large area is available for cultivation. Fruit and vegetables grow to a large size, and are very abundant; the land is very productive, and pays well for cultivation, as there is a good market both at Vancouver and Victoria, which are growing cities, each with 20,000 inhabitants, and have to be fed from the interior. A great deal of the land down the valley of the Fraser River is very rich and fertile, but a good deal of it is wet and

wants draining. For instance, at Mission City, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, where the valley widens out, and there is a branch line running down to the States, thousands of acres mostly held by land companies and speculators are obtainable, but there is great need of a thorough system of drainage to carry off the water, which can only be done on a large scale to render much of this land available. The inhabitants are very thrifty, and intend to bring the place into prominence.

At New Westminster, a place famous for its salmon canneries, we chartered a small steamer and sailed down the river to Ladner's Landing, situated at the mouth of the river. On the reclaimed lands at this place they grow timothy hay and fruit in abundance; it finds a ready sale at the mines of Nanaimo at remunerative prices. These lands are alluvial deposit, and consequently very rich and productive, but it takes capital to farm them, as they are mostly held at high prices. To show how these places are growing it only need be said that in 1885, when the Canadian Pacific Railway was brought through, the site of the city of Vancouver was a dense forest. For the first few months it made rapid progress, but as the houses were mostly built of wood, they were nearly all swept away by fire which had spread from the neighbouring forests. However, since then it has rapidly recovered, and the houses are being built more substantially, brick and stone being used, of which there is a great abundance. The streets are regularly laid out, and many of them are very handsome and lighted by electricity. The churches are large and commodious. A line of steamers ply from the docks to Japan and China. Communication is kept up also with New Zealand and Australia and the United States. A good trade is springing up between those places and British Columbia.

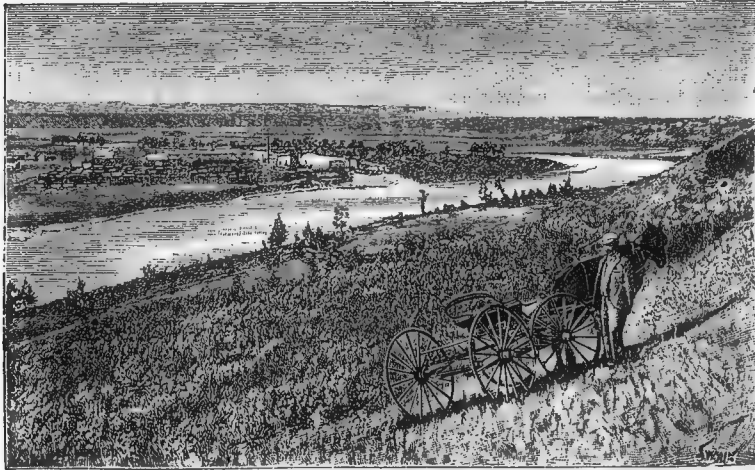
Victoria, which is the capital of the province, is situated at the south end of Vancouver Island. It is very English, and the most beautiful city I have seen since Edinburgh and Paris. A great many Chinese live there, and they make very good labourers. In the town they do the scavenging, washing, &c., and in the country (white labour being scarce) they are useful to the farmers, especially in fruit-picking, gathering potatoes, and other light employment. They earn about \$1 per day, and have their own settlement in a distinct part of the town. English labour is much preferred when it can be had.

The country is principally covered with trees, chiefly cedar and Douglas fir, which make it very expensive to clear. Many of these trees are from 200 to 300 feet high, and measure from 20 to 30 feet or more in girth, running up from 50 to a 100 feet without a branch. It seems a pity that this good wood should have to be wasted. These vast forests should be kept in reserve, for some future day they most likely will be wanted. Indeed, now a trade is springing up with China, and shipments are sent over to this country. The cedar wood makes splendid furniture.

It costs generally from \$75 to \$100 per acre to clear it; the land itself often costs nearly as much, at least, in the vicinity of Victoria, so

that it requires considerable capital to start farming in these parts; but, undoubtedly, a good living is to be made out of market gardening, growing fruit, and other produce.

We drove out to Saanich, north of Victoria; the Mayor was with us, and gave us a good deal of information about the neighbourhood.



BOW RIVER, CALGARY.

Again at Calgary. We arrived on Saturday night, and after spending Sunday we proceeded up to Edmonton. Edmonton, a distance of about 200 miles to the north, calling on the way at Red Deer, which is about half-way. We spent a few days in visiting the farmers, and examining the country. This is a good district, and adapted for grazing. We saw some very good stock. The Canadian Pacific Railway, and Land Companies, have land to sell within reasonable distance of the railway, at \$3 per acre, and the Government have any amount of it a very few miles from the station, available for homesteads. There is a nice little town springing up, and schools and churches. It is well watered by a fine river, called the Red Deer River, which supplies the town, and drives a saw-mill. The Methodists have an important mission, and industrial schools, where they teach the Indians the arts of industry; and to prove their success, we saw a full-blooded Indian, who had obtained his degree as Bachelor of Arts, and was assisting in the work as a regular preacher. Mr. Gaetz, who was a minister, broken down in health, has done good service in developing the resources of this section of the country. Before we left, an agricultural show was held, where good samples of produce were exhibited, showing clearly what the land could do. The district is not heavily timbered, though there is plenty on each section for ordinary purposes, and heavier stuff can be got on the Government lands for building purposes, upon payment of a small fee. The grass is of fine quality, thickly matted, and very well adapted

for dairying. The soil is rich deep black loam, and there is coal in the district.

From Red Deer we proceeded to Edmonton, a distance by rail of about 100 miles. The district in between is nearly all fine agricultural land, with here and there a settlement. Homestead lands may be obtained anywhere along this route, but there is some sandy land, though, which should be avoided.

Having arrived at Edmonton about 1 o'clock in the morning, we stayed on the south side of the river. We spent two days in inspecting the surrounding country and visiting the farmers, and we were very much pleased with the aspect of things. There is a great deal of very good land about here, but we were surprised to see so little of it cultivated. This is owing, we were told, to the fact that speculators have got hold of it in the immediate vicinity of the town, and holding it at too high prices, have thus driven the settlers back further away from the railway. Still, there is a great deal of good land to be got at reasonable prices—say \$5 to \$10—within a short distance of the town, and Government lands, for homesteading, at from 8 to 20 miles from the station, which is not far considering the circumstances. They have no coal to fetch, no manure, or anything of the kind—things which are so expensive in this country. We visited several of the farmers, and found them happy and contented. One man with whom we had lunch, had, together with his sons, three quarter-sections. He showed us some very good wheat and cattle also. Having visited the fort, which is a little down the river, where there is some good land to sell and homestead, we proceeded across the ferry to North Edmonton, an older settlement. Here also a show was being held, and we saw many specimens of all kinds of farm produce, which did credit to the neighbourhood. Wheat, barley, and oats were especially good, also the potatoes. Turnips were very large, but rather coarse. Some fine specimens of ladies' handiwork were shown: for instance, butter, bread, preserves made from native fruits, needlework, &c. A fine collection of native grasses was on view, conspicuous amongst which were the pea-vine, wild vetch, blue-joint grass, &c., all very valuable for winter food for cattle. A number of paintings, drawings, and needlework, were also displayed.

A number of people make a living by washing for gold on the river side, by the cradle process. Coal crops up on the surface, and is being worked by means of a drift into the banks at the sides of the river, and there are indications of great quantities being in this neighbourhood. The temperature is very much milder in winter than in some other parts, owing to the chinook winds, which come across the Rocky Mountains from the Pacific Coast. The same may be said of the district between here and Calgary. There are some settlements to the north of Edmonton, at St. Albert and the Sturgeon River. There seems to be a very good opening for a cheese factory. Butter-making and pig-feeding would also pay, as prices are good.

We called at Mr. D. Maloney's place, west of the fort, who seems to have done very well. He has 600 acres, of which 100 are under crop, has 22 horses, 60 pigs, and 80 head of cattle. Mr.

Maloney has been here thirteen years, and came from Ontario. He says that oats average about 75 bushels per acre, and are worth 40 cents per bushel; barley, 50 bushels, at 40 cents; wheat, 30, at 60 cents per bushel. He sells his steers at two and a half years old, at from \$30 to \$40 each. A four-year-old horse will fetch \$100. The hay costs him about \$1.10 per ton putting up; and 2 tons is sufficient for a beast during winter. Labour costs \$20 per month and food, for six or eight months during summer. Odd day's work, \$1 and food.

There is a considerable quantity of land to sell between St. Albert and Edmonton—some of it very good. There is danger of anyone being deceived, as the land which is wettest in spring is often most valuable in autumn and winter, owing to the greater abundance of feed upon it, and *vice versa*, so that people should keep these points in view when choosing a location.



CROFTERS THRESHING

After spending two days and a night on the railway, we arrived at Brandon again, where we stayed the night, and started next morning to drive across the country a distance of 60 miles to Killarney and the crofters' settlement. The way lies through a fine corn-growing district. As night came on we could see large straw fires burning round us on every side. It is the practice in some neighbourhoods to set fire to it after they have done threshing, not wanting it for fodder or manure. The time is coming when they will need it for fodder or other purposes, and will cease this wasteful practice. We found the crofters nicely situated by the side of a lake, where they could get fish. They are a discontented lot, and do not make the best of their situation, but spend their time in loafing about, nursing their grievances, complaining of the Government and other things. The fact is, they are better off

than they are willing to acknowledge, or ever could have been, had they remained at home; but they want to shirk their obligations. In contrast to this is a Mennonite settlement on the way to Winnipeg. These men originally came out from Russia, and were Germans who had settled there on condition that they should not be called upon to bear arms; but "another king who knew not Joseph" came and they were compelled to do so. In consequence, they gained permission of the Canadian Government to settle in Canada under like conditions. They were assisted indirectly by the Government upon the guarantee of their friends in Ontario. They are now a thriving colony, and have paid off every shilling of principal and interest.



A CROFTER STABLE AND FARM-YARD.

We visited Mr. Alexander David, who has a cheese factory, and seems to be doing well: he produces about 100 lbs. of cheese per day for six months of the year, beginning in May, and sells it at 11 cents to 12 cents per lb., after keeping it for six weeks. The milk is drawn from the farmers around, for which he pays them 75 cents per 100 lbs., and they get the whey back for home use. A farmer will get, upon an average, \$4½ for each cow. It takes 10 lbs. of milk to make 1 lb. of cheese.

From here we proceeded to Winnipeg. After resting a few days, some of the party returned home to England. Mr. Guiry (the Irish delegate) and myself got an extended commission to go and visit the agricultural lands in Southern Ontario.

We saw also the Falls of Niagara, and called at Guelph, London, Toronto, Hamilton, and Whitby. At the first mentioned place there is an agricultural college which would do credit to any country. Farmers' sons are taught the sciences pertaining to their occupation, and are turned out practical farmers; they are made to work as well as study, and are paid for their work by a system of wages, whereby they can reduce the cost of tuition very much.

Hamilton, which is situated at the west end of Lake Ontario, is the centre of a great fruit-growing district, and exports large quantities to the home market. Indeed, fruit culture is carried on to a large extent. Grapes and peaches grow in the open air; melons, pumpkins, and squashes grow to a large size.

Dr. Stephenson, of the Children's Home, Bonar Road, London, has a branch establishment here, where he sends some of the best of his reclaimed children from the central establishment, and other branches. It is under the able management of W. Sanford Evans. Hon. Senator Sanford takes a great interest in it, and is the treasurer. Considerably over 1,000 children have been sent over the water by this institution, and placed in homes in Canada, where they are making a respectable living.



AN ONTARIO FARM.

From Hamilton we came to Toronto, a fine city of 200,000 inhabitants, with well-laid-out streets, large churches, and public buildings. We stayed here two or three days, and visited the neighbourhood. We went to see Mr. Davis's farm, a little way out of the city, and saw some good blood stock. Mr. Davis goes in for breeding, and has a stud of Clydesdales, some of which took prizes at the World's Fair, Chicago. He also has some very good Shropshire Down sheep, and a herd of Shorthorns, to which he has made several additions lately. His Shorthorn bull, "Northern Light," is a particularly fine animal,

and is doing good service, not only in the show ring, but as a stock-getter of the best quality and grit. A man like this, of public spirit, is doing great service by spreading good blood all over the country. We next visited Mr. Dryden's farm. He is the Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Ontario. He lives at Brooklin, near Whitby, a very fine district, and has a beautiful farm, well cultivated. He has the best bull we saw in Canada, also some good sheep and horses, and is a stock-rearer of note. We met also Mr. Wm. Smith, M.P., who is a farmer in this neighbourhood, and obtained much valuable information. He also has a shorthorn herd and some good sheep. They can grow good turnips and roots in this neighbourhood. We saw some splendid swedes; they preserve them from the frost in the same way as we do, at very little cost. The autumn-sown wheat was fully out of the ground 2 in. throughout the province when we were there in the first week in November. They have to sow the wheat early that it may get good root-hold before the autumn sets in. There is much land which might be drained with advantage, but the pipes should be put in deep enough, so that they may not be burst by the frost. Of all places, Ontario is the one to go to for men who have capital, and want the comforts of more civilised life and society, and nearness to the markets. There are large towns every few miles, and plenty of home comforts. A great deal of land is owned by loan companies and mortgagees, who sell it at reduced prices. As it was in England a few years ago, when wheat was selling well, so in Ontario. A farmer would borrow money at high interest, in order to purchase or take an adjoining estate, and give his own farm or his stock as security for it, thinking to get rich thereby. However, things changed, a reverse took place, he was unable to meet his liabilities, and so the land in many instances got into the hands of the money-lenders, and now they have them to sell. Farms, too, are smaller, and the head of a family, instead of dividing his land into small pieces for his sons to settle on, often sells out altogether and goes up to the North-West Territories, where he can get for the same amount of capital a farm for each one of them. The land is worth in this district \$30 to \$60 per acre with good house and buildings.

The various advantages of settling in Canada are :—

Firstly.—It is part of the British Empire, and under British laws and regulations.

Secondly.—The people speak our own language and are our own relations.

Thirdly.—It means building up our great Empire.

Fourthly.—Canada has a great future before it, and with its stalwart sons has an important part to play in the Empire.

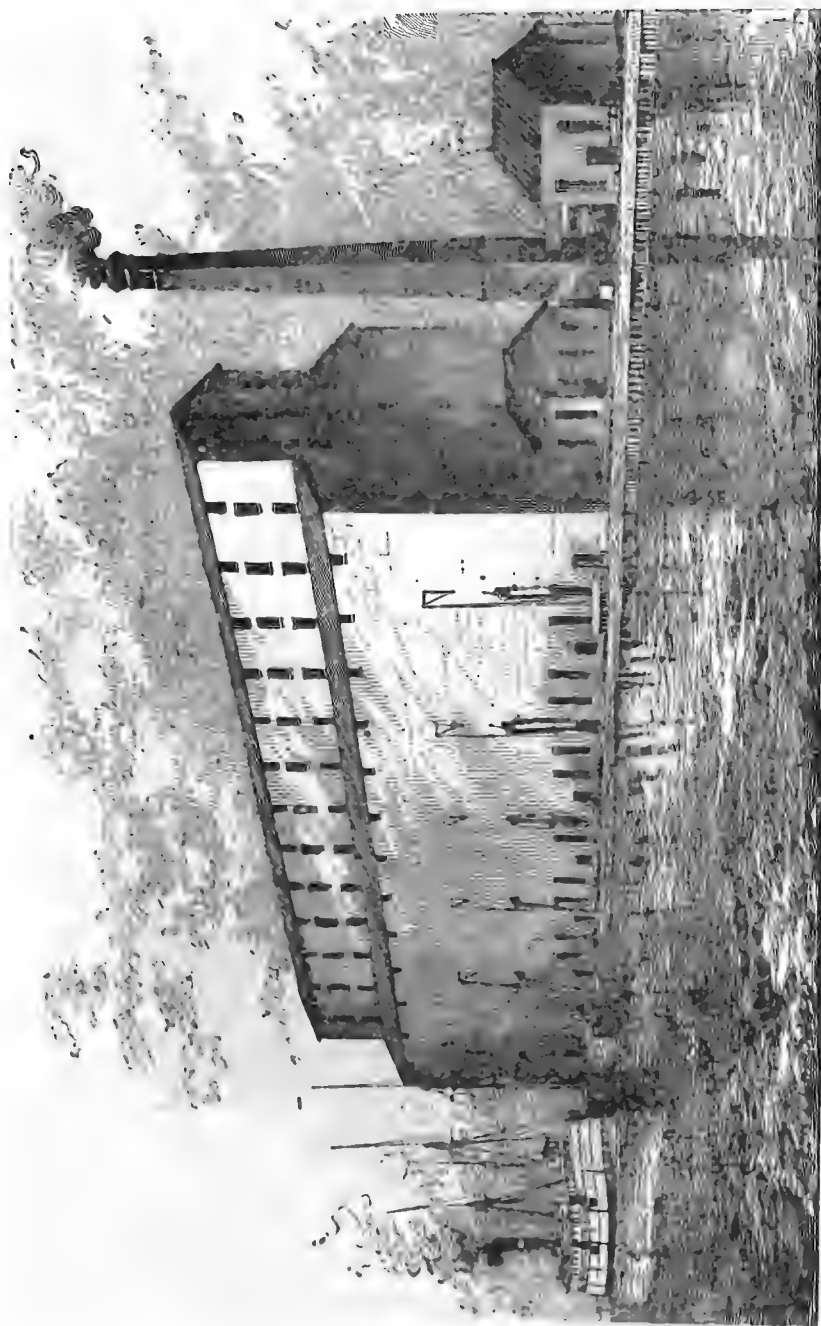
Fifthly.—It is a place where little is thought of wealth, and more of men and character.

Sixthly.—A man can get on there with much less capital, and make a living for himself and family with less risk and anxiety than elsewhere.

I wish it here to be distinctly understood that I write with a full sense of my responsibility, and do not intend to exaggerate. I am not the mouthpiece of the Canadian Government, but the representative of a great number of farmers who wished me to go out to see what prospect there is for British enterprise, and how things compare with those in their own neighbourhood. Once for all I disclaim any personal interest in the matter, other than the enjoyment it gave as an outing, and the experience I gained of men and things as we passed through the country.



SPORTSMEN'S CAMP ON LAKE NEPIGON,



GRAIN ELEVATOR, FORT WILLIAM.

APPENDIX A.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT CANADA.

General Information. The Dominion of Canada includes the whole of British North America to the north of the United States, and has an area of nearly 3,500,000 square miles. It is divided into eight separate provinces, and the population at the last census was 4,829,411—viz.: Prince Edward Island, 109,088; Nova Scotia, 450,523; New Brunswick, 321,294; Quebec, 1,488,586; Ontario, 2,112,989; Manitoba, 154,472; the North-West Territories, 67,554; British Columbia, 92,767; and unorganised Territories, 32,168. The extent of the country will be better understood by stating that it is larger than the United States without Alaska, and nearly as large as the whole of Europe.

Constitution and Government. The government of the country has at its head the Governor-General, the representative of Her Majesty. The Dominion Parliament consists of the Senate and of the House of Commons, and the government of the day is in the hands of the majority, from whom the Privy Council, or the Cabinet, who act as the advisers of the Governor-General, are taken. The members of the Senate are nominated for life by the Governor-General, and the duration of the House of Commons is fixed by the Act as five years. Each province has also its local Parliament, in some cases of two Houses, as in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, and in others of only one, as in Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia. The head of the Provincial Government is known as the Lieutenant-Governor, and is appointed by the Governor-General. The constitution of Canada is contained in the British North America Act, 1867, which defines the powers both of the federal and of the local Legislatures. It may be said, generally, that the former deals with matters concerning the community as a whole, and the latter with subjects of local interest. Twenty-seven years' experience has demonstrated that the country has made great progress under the existing institutions, and the principle of union is recognised by all political parties as the sure foundation on which the future of the Dominion depends. There is a free and liberal franchise in operation, both for the Provincial and Dominion Parliaments, which gives most men the benefit of a vote. In the provinces there are county and township councils for regulating local affairs, such as roads, schools, and other municipal purposes, so that the government of the Dominion is decentralised as far as practicable, in the spirit of the Imperial legislation before mentioned.

Climate. Nothing connected with Canada is so much misrepresented and misunderstood as its climate, but it has only to be experienced to be thoroughly appreciated. It is warmer in summer and much colder in winter than in Great Britain; but

the heat is favourable to the growth of fruit and the crops, and in every way pleasant and beneficial, and the cold is not prejudicial to health or life. In fact, Canada is one of the healthiest countries in the world. The winter lasts from the end of November or the beginning of December to the end of March or middle of April; spring from April to May; summer from June to September; and autumn from October to the end of November. The seasons vary sometimes, but the above is the average duration of the different periods. The nature of the climate of a country may be measured by its products. In winter most of the trades and manufactures are carried on as usual, and, as regards farming, much the same work is done on a Canadian farm in autumn and in winter as on English, Scotch, or Irish homesteads. Ploughing is not possible, of course, in the depth of winter, but it is done in the autumn and early spring, and in the winter months cattle have to be fed, the dairy attended to, cereals threshed, machinery put in order, buildings repaired, carting done, and wood-cutting, and preparations made for the spring work, so that it is by no means an idle season. One thing is perfectly certain—that the country would not have developed so rapidly as it has done, and the population would not have grown to its present proportions, had the climate been unfavourable to the health, prosperity, and progress of the community. Of course there are good and bad seasons in Canada, as everywhere else, but, taken altogether, the climate will compare very favourably with other countries in similar latitudes.

Temperature. As the temperature in Manitoba and the North-West Territories is frequently referred to, it is desirable to quote official statistics bearing on the question. The mean temperature at Winnipeg in the summer is 60.3° , and during the winter 1° ; Brandon, 58.1° and -1.8° ; Rapid City, 62.2° and 2.7° ; Portage-la-Prairie, 61.8° and 12.6° . In the North-West Territories, the summer and winter mean temperatures at the specified places are as follows:—Regina, 59.2° and -2.4° ; Calgary, 55.6° and 12.2° ; Edmonton, 55.2° and 11.3° . It is very evident the temperature only very occasionally reaches the various extreme limits that are sometimes mentioned, or the mean winter temperatures could not be anything like the figures above quoted.

Products of Canada. Reference has been made elsewhere to the agricultural products of Canada. The country also possesses great wealth in the timber contained in the immense forests, and in the minerals of all kinds, including coal, gold, silver, iron, copper, &c. Then, again, the fisheries along the extensive coasts, both on the Atlantic side and on the Pacific, and in the inland waters, are most valuable and varied, and are valued annually at several millions sterling. The principal fishes are salmon, trout, cod, herring, mackerel, halibut, and haddock. Oysters and lobsters are also most numerous. The manufacturing industry already occupies a most important position, and is growing more extensive every year. Almost every kind of manufacture is carried on. This activity is not confined to any one part of Canada, but is apparent in all the older provinces,

and will no doubt in time extend to the western parts of the Dominion also.

Mortgages. Reference is sometimes made to some Canadian farms being mortgaged. It should be borne in mind, however, that a proportion of the Canadian farmers start with little or no capital. In order to provide capital in such cases, the farm is mortgaged, but the loan companies, as a rule, do not advance more than half the value of the properties. The interest paid bears no comparison to the rent of similar-sized farms in the United Kingdom, and the fact of the existence of a mortgage, in these circumstances, is not detrimental to the position of the farmer. Not only is the interest invariably paid, but the experience is that the loans are paid off as they mature. The losses of the Canadian companies are comparatively small, and the investment, therefore, is a good one to the lender, and an advantage to the farmer.

Trade Imports and Exports. Canada's trade—import and export—amounts to nearly £50,000,000 per annum, and is largely with Great Britain and the United States, the balance being exchanged with European countries, the West Indies, South America, Australasia, China, and Japan. The figures given above only include the outside trade, and do not embrace that done between the various provinces. Free trade, in its entirety, exists within the boundaries of the Dominion, and the local business is very large, as the tonnage carried on the railways and canals and on the coasting vessels will show. It may be stated that the revenue now amounts to about \$36,000,000 per annum, of which about \$20,000,000—equal to 17s. per head of the population—is obtained from customs duties on goods imported into Canada.

Markets. Markets, either within or without the Dominion, exist for all the products of the country, and no difficulty is found in this respect. New markets have been provided by the establishment of lines of steamers to the West Indies, Australasia, China, and Japan, which are now in operation. Canada is well served with railway and water communication, and the shipping owned in Canada is so large that it occupies a high place in the list of ship-owning countries of the world. A railway extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and each province possesses excellent railway accommodation; in fact, there are over 15,000 miles of line in operation at the present time. The rivers and canals have been so much improved of late years, that the largest ocean-going steamers can moor alongside the wharves at Quebec and Montreal, and it is possible for a vessel of 500 tons burden to pass from the Atlantic into the great lakes. The enlargement of the canals now in progress, which is to be completed in 1895, will permit ocean vessels of 2,000 tons gross burden to pass to the head of Lake Navigation without breaking bulk.

Social Distinctions. The distinctions of class do not exist in Canada to the same extent as in the mother country. There is no law of primogeniture, and there are no paupers; a feeling of healthy independence pervades all classes, which no doubt

arises from the fact that every farmer is the owner of his acres, is his own master, and is free to do as he wills—a state of things conducive to a condition of freedom unknown in older countries. Then, again, taxation is comparatively light, and many social difficulties, still under discussion in Great Britain, were grappled with in Canada years ago. Religious liberty prevails; there is practically free and unsectarian education; a free and liberal franchise exists; local option in regard to the liquor traffic is in operation; the duration of the Parliament does not exceed five years, and the members are paid for their services; marriage with a deceased wife's sister has been legalised; and there is no poor law system, although orphans and the helpless and aged of both sexes are not neglected, being cared for under the municipal system. And, again, a good system of local government is at work in every province. The system of education in force—under the supervision and guidance of the Provincial Governments—enables the best education to be obtained at a trifling cost, and therefore the poor, as well as the rich, can make themselves eligible for the highest positions in the country. In principle the system in operation is the same in the different provinces, although the details may differ somewhat. In each school district trustees are elected to manage the schools for the inhabitants, who pay a small rate towards their support, the balance being met by considerable grants from the local governments.

British subjects settling in Canada do not require to be naturalised. They are entitled to all the same rights and privileges as their fellow British subjects who may have been born there; indeed, the removal of a family to Canada makes no more difference in their position, as British subjects, than if they had gone instead to any city, town, or village in the United Kingdom. Of course it is a different thing if they go to the United States or any other foreign country. In that case they must renounce their birthright, and their allegiance to their sovereign and their flag, before they can enjoy any of the political advantages of citizenship; and in many parts of the United States land cannot be bought, or sold, or transferred, excepting by naturalised persons.

Government Agents in the United Kingdom. Intending settlers in Canada are strongly advised to communicate, either personally or by letter, with the nearest agent of the Canadian Government in Great Britain (see Preface) before they leave, so as to obtain the fullest and latest advice applicable to their cases. Cards of introduction to the Government Agents in Canada are also supplied to desirable persons. Any information supplied by these gentlemen may be thoroughly relied upon.

Then, again, on reaching Canada, or at any time afterwards, the nearest Government Agent should be consulted, as they are in a position to furnish accurate particulars on all matters of interest to the new arrival.

Government Agents in Canada. The Dominion Government has agents at Quebec, Montreal, Halifax, and St. John, the principal ports of landing in Canada; and the various Provincial Governments also supervise immigration as far as possible. At Toronto, Ontario, the Superintendent of Immigration is Mr. D.

Spence, 65, Simcoe Street; and in Victoria, British Columbia, Mr. Jessop, the Provincial Government Agent, should be consulted. The following is a list of the various Immigration Agencies under the supervision of the Department of the Interior:—

Winnipeg, Man. { Commissioner of Dominion Lands,
in charge of Outside Service in Manitoba
and the North-West Territories } Mr. H. H. SMITH.

Agents at Ports of Call for Steamships in Canada:—

Mr. E. M. CLAY ...	Halifax, N.S.	Mr. P. DOYLE ...	Quebec, Q.
„ S. GARDNER ...	St. John, N.B.	„ J. HOOLAHAN ...	Montreal, Q.

Dominion Lands Agents in Canada who act as Immigration Agents:—

W. H. HAM ...	Brandon, Man.	THOS. ANDERSON	Edmonton, N.W.T.
W. G. PENTLAND	Birtle, „	C. E. PHIPPS ...	Oxbow, „
JOHN FLESHER ...	Deloraine, „	E. BROKOVSKI ...	Battleford, „
W. M. HILLIARD...	Minnedosa, „	GEO. YOUNG ...	Lethbridge, „
W. H. STEVENSON	Regina, N.W.T.	T. B. FERGUSON	Saltcoats, „
AMOS ROWE ...	Calgary, „	JOHN MCKENZIE	New Westminster,
J. G. JESSUP ...	Red Deer, „		B.C.
JOHN McTAGGART	Prince Albert, „	E. A. NASH ...	Kamloops, B.C.

The best time for persons with little or no capital to go out is from April to July—the earlier the better. Domestic servants may start at any time of the year.

No Assisted There are no free or assisted passages to Canada. The full ordinary steamship fares must be paid by all immigrants, and they must also have enough money in addition to pay for their railway fares from the port of landing to their destination, and to provide board and lodging until work is secured. The Government does not render any assistance in these matters, and all new-comers must be self-supporting. The Government Agents do not book passengers, and intending emigrants are advised to consult the local steamship agents on that subject. Neither do they recommend any one line more than another. They are quite impartial in both respects.

Booking It is not necessary to say anything in detail about the various steamers going to Canada, or about the fares. All *Passages.* such information can be obtained from the advertising columns of the newspapers, or from the steamship agents, who are to be found in every town or village. Passengers are recommended to take through tickets (including ocean and rail tickets) to their destinations in Canada. They are issued by the steamship companies, and in this way it is often possible to save money—as through tickets often cost less than the ocean ticket and the Canadian rail ticket if taken separately. Many of the railway companies in Great Britain issue cheap railway tickets from various places to the ports of embarkation, such as Liverpool, London, and Glasgow, and in these cases information may be obtained from the railway booking offices.

Passengers should pay particular attention to the labelling *Luggage.* of their luggage, and labels may be obtained from the steamship companies. They should also bear in mind that the steamship companies only carry free a limited quantity of baggage,

according to the class of ticket taken, and that the railway companies may charge for anything over 150 lbs. weight. The Canadian Pacific Railway carry 300 lbs. free for emigrants proceeding to Manitoba and the North-West Territories. Care should be exercised in deciding what had better be taken to Canada. Furniture, and heavy and bulky goods of that description, had better be left behind, as the freight charged for extra baggage makes it an expensive luxury; all household requirements can be purchased in the country. Agricultural implements and tools should not be taken out, as the most improved articles of this description adapted to the country can be purchased in any village in Canada. Skilled mechanics and artisans, when recommended to go out, may take their tools, but they must remember what is stated above, and also that in the Dominion all these things can be bought at reasonable prices. Emigrants may be safely advised to take a good supply of underclothing, heavy and light, for winter and summer wear, house and table linen, blankets, bed-ticks, and any other articles of special value which do not take up much room.

Settlers' Effects free of Customs Duty. Settlers' effects are admitted free of customs duty if they come within the terms of the following clause of the customs tariff:—

Settlers' Effects, viz.:—Wearing apparel, household furniture, professional books, implements and tools of trade, occupation, or employment, which the settler has had in actual use for at least six months before removal to Canada, musical instruments, domestic sewing machines, live stock, carts, and other vehicles and agricultural implements in use by the settler for at least one year before his removal to Canada, not to include machinery or articles imported for use in any manufacturing establishment or for sale: provided that any dutiable article entered as settlers' effects may not be so entered unless brought with the settler on his first arrival, and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of without payment of duty until after two years' actual use in Canada; provided also that, under regulations made by the Minister of Customs, live stock, when imported into Manitoba or the North-West Territory by intending settlers, shall be free, until otherwise ordered by the Governor in Council.

Wages. Wages—which, of course, vary from time to time—are, as a general rule, from a quarter to one-half higher than in Great Britain, but in some trades they are even more. The cost of living is lower, upon the whole, and an average family will, with proper care, be much better off in Canada than at home. There are very good openings in Canada for the classes of persons recommended to go out, but it must be borne in mind that hard work, energy, enterprise, and steadiness of character are as essential there as in any other country. Indeed, perhaps they are more necessary; but, on the other hand, there is a much better chance of success for any persons possessing these qualities, and who are able and willing to adapt themselves to the conditions of life obtaining in Canada.

Capitalists. Persons with capital to invest will find many openings in Canada. They can engage in agricultural pursuits, taking up the free-grant lands or purchasing the improved farms to be found in every province, or in mining, or in the manufacturing industries. Again, a settled income will be found

to go much farther in Canada, and while the climate is healthy and the scenery magnificent, there are abundant opportunities for sport; and the facilities for education are not to be excelled anywhere.

Where to go. Young men should go to Manitoba, the North-West, or British Columbia. Older men, with capital and young families, should go to one of the older provinces, and either buy or rent an improved farm. This, however, is only a general statement, and individual cases must be decided by the special circumstances of each. In Manitoba and the North-West, and in some parts of British Columbia, pioneer life on free grants, or away from railways, is attended with a certain amount of inconvenience, and an absence of those social surroundings which may be obtained in the older settled parts of these and other provinces, and this fact should be borne in mind by those who are considering the subject. But even in these districts improved farms may be purchased at reasonable rates.

Capital necessary. It is difficult to lay down a hard-and-fast rule as to the amount of capital necessary for farm work. The answer depends on the energy, experience, judgment, and enterprise of the person who is to spend the money, the province selected, whether free-grant land is to be taken up or an improved farm rented or purchased, and many other details. It may safely be said, however, that if a man has from £100 to £200 clear on landing, and some knowledge of farming, he is in a position to make a fair start on the free-grant land in Manitoba and the North-West; but it is generally advisable to obtain some experience of the country before commencing on one's own account.

Farm Servants. There is a large and growing demand for male and female farm servants in every part of the Dominion. Machinery of various kinds is in daily use, but labour is scarce notwithstanding, and good hands can in the proper seasons find constant employment. Many persons of this class who started as labourers now have farms of their own in some of the finest parts of the Dominion. Market gardeners, gardeners, and persons understanding the care of horses, cattle, and sheep, may also be advised to go out.

Domestic Servants. So far as numbers are concerned, perhaps the largest demand of all is for female domestic servants. The wages are good, the conditions of service are not irksome, and comfortable homes are assured. Domestic servants should go at once on their arrival to the nearest Government Agent. These gentlemen often have in their offices a list of vacant situations, and will refer applicants to the local ladies' committees, so that they may have the benefit of supervision and guidance, until they are satisfactorily placed. Servants should, however, take their characters with them, and must bear in mind that good records are just as indispensable in Canada as elsewhere. They may safely go out at any time of the year.

Other Classes of Labour. There is little or no demand for females other than domestic servants. Governesses, shop assistants, nurses, &c., should not go out unless proceeding to join friends able and willing to aid them in getting

employment. Mechanics, general labourers, and navvies are advised to obtain special information as to their respective trades before going out. The demand is not now so great as it was a few years ago, and such men, especially with large families, are not encouraged to set out *on the chance* of finding employment. They may be safely advised to start when going to join friends who advise them to do so, or if they have the inclination and the knowledge to enable them to change their callings and become agriculturists.

Clerks, draftsmen, shop assistants, and railway *employés* are not advised to emigrate unless proceeding to appointments already assured. Any demand for labour of these kinds is fully met on the spot.

No encouragement is held out to members of the legal and medical and other professions, schoolmasters, and persons desiring to enter the military and civil services, to go to the Dominion, especially in cases where immediate employment is necessary. There are always openings and opportunities for men of exceptional abilities with a little capital; but, generally speaking, the professional and so-called lighter callings in Canada are in very much the same position as they are in the United Kingdom, the local supply being equal to, if not greater than, the demand.



CANOEING.

APPENDIX B.

THE CANADIAN EXHIBITS AT CHICAGO.

The Canadian exhibits at the Chicago Exhibition having been referred to in several of the delegate's Reports, it has been considered desirable to publish such facts as are available as to the success which the Dominion obtained on that occasion in competition with the world. The American Press are unanimous in conceding that Canada will reap a greater benefit from the World's Fair than any other country. The variety of the vegetable products of Canada served to illustrate in a manner, hardly to be shown in any other way, the climate and the fertility of its soil; while the exhibits of mineral wealth, of its fisheries, and of its manufacturing industries demonstrated the possibilities of future development.

It may be said that Canada was unrepresented on many of the juries connected with several of the groups of exhibits, and on others the Canadian members were of course in a minority. It is eminently satisfactory to find, therefore, that the awards in all classes of exhibits have been so numerous, and frequently coupled with remarks of a flattering nature.

The following is an extract from the report of the British Consul at Chicago to the Earl of Rosebery, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, on the Chicago Exhibition:—

Canada has been brought prominently forward in a manner which can scarcely fail to assure permanent benefit. Its chief exhibits were natural products, though the colony was represented in every department except electricity. Its cheese and butter exhibits were remarkable, and gained a disproportionately large number of awards, beating all competitors; Japan is understood to have sent a special commission to examine and report on the methods adopted by the colony in these matters. The show of animals, especially sheep, met with great approval. The quality of Canadian fruit was generally recognised. The exhibit of grain and other products of the north-western provinces has shown what can be grown, and as a result many inquiries have been made with a view to settlement in those parts. The same applies to British Columbia, regarding which province overtures have been made by quite a colony of Austrian subjects for settlement, with a view to fruit-growing and general farming.

Agriculture. The Canadian exhibits in this important department were excelled by none in quality and appearance. The excellence of the wheat was the subject of general comment, and a considerable demand has already arisen on the part of United States farmers for seed grain from Manitoba and the North-West Territories. Canada obtained 1,016 awards in this group, including 776 awards for cheese and butter. This does not comprise the awards obtained by Manitoba, which have not yet been received. It is understood that in the tests for quality, made under chemical analysis on behalf of the Exhibition authorities, Manitoba No. 1 Hard Red Eyre wheat gave the very best results.

Cheese and Butter.

The exhibitions of cheese and butter were the largest of their kind ever made on the North American continent. Two competitions were arranged for Cheddar or factory cheese, in the months of June and October. In the first named, the United States entries numbered 505, and the Canadian 162. There were 138 prizes awarded, of which Canada took 129, and the United States 9. Thirty-one exhibits of Canadian cheese also scored higher points than the best United States cheese. In the October competition for the same class of cheese, made previous to 1893, there were 82 entries from the United States, and 524 from Canada. There were 110 prizes offered, and Canada secured them all. There were also 414 awards for cheese made in 1893. Of these, Canada obtained 369, and the United States 45. In these two competitions, therefore, the United States entered 587 exhibits and took 54 prizes, as against Canada's 686 entries and 608 prizes. There were three judges for cheese, two for the United States, and one for Canada. The significance of this result is enhanced when considered in conjunction with the difference in the population of the two countries—65 millions against 5 millions. Canada now exports several millions of pounds of cheese per annum more than the United States to the English market, her exports to the mother country having risen from 30,889,353 lbs. in 1875 to 127,843,632 lbs. in 1892. In the butter competition, Canada took 27 awards. The great development of the cheese industry in recent years has interfered, no doubt, with the expansion of the butter trade. The steps, however, that have been taken of late years to encourage this industry are having effect; and the Dairy Commissioner of the Dominion has expressed an opinion that within five years' time the manufacture of butter in Canada will be equal to that of cheese, both in quality and quantity. In 1893 Canada exported 43,193 cwt. of butter to Great Britain.

Agricultural Machinery.

The absence of awards for Canadian agricultural machinery is explained by the withdrawal of the exhibits from competition, it having been decided that machines adapted to field work should be judged by field tests. As this would have necessitated bringing duplicate machines to Chicago at great expense, or the spoiling of the actual exhibits for show purposes during the remainder of the Fair, the greater number of Canadian and United States exhibitors withdrew from competition. Professor Thurston, the chairman of the jurors on agricultural implements, and consulting mechanical engineer to the Exposition, stated that in design, finish, and smoothness of operation the Canadian machinery was equal to anything in the Exhibition.

Canada obtained 65 awards. The list included seven different awards for Canadian grapes—a valuable tribute to the climate of the country. The small number of awards is due to the fact that awards were only given to collective exhibits, and not to individual exhibitors, or for each variety of fruit shown. With regard to the vegetable display, it was admitted that the Canadian exhibit was greatly superior to any other. Both fruit and

vegetables won the highest praise from the jurors for variety, excellence, and quality; and in this connection the report of the British Consul is especially interesting.

Live Stock. Canada more than sustained at Chicago her splendid record at Philadelphia in 1876 in this department, the

live stock and poultry exhibited having secured more than one-half of the total prizes offered. In cattle, with 184 entries, Canada took 104 prizes, 17 medals, and 3 diplomas; against 532 entries of the United States, and 306 prizes and 13 medals. In horses, Canada had 96 entries, and 44 prizes, 2 gold medals, 10 medals, and 3 diplomas; the United States, 446 entries, 257 prizes, 6 gold medals, 12 medals, and 4 diplomas. In sheep, Canada, with 352 entries, secured 250 prizes, 5 silver cups, and 8 diplomas; against the United States' 478 entries and 193 prizes. In swine, Canada's 68 entries obtained 64 prizes, and the United States' 96 entries 67 prizes. In poultry and pet stock, Canada was awarded 501 prizes with 1,147 entries, and the United States 671 prizes with 2,453 entries. The grand totals were: Canada, 1,847 entries and 1,175 prizes; the United States, 4,005 entries and 1,494 prizes. This must be regarded as a very great success especially when the populations of the United States and Canada are taken into account. All the Canadian sheep and swine were bought by the Commissioner for Costa Rica.

Fish and Fisheries. The committee of jurors considered the Canadian fish exhibit the best and most complete in the Exposition. Twenty-four individual exhibitors also obtained medals.

Mines and Mining. No single exhibit in the mining building attracted more attention, and came in for more favourable comment, than the Canadian display; and the fact that there were 67 collective exhibits which took gold medals and diplomas in competition with other countries, speaks highly for the variety and richness of the mineral resources of the Dominion. The collections of ornamental and precious stones were much admired, and orders were subsequently received from two of the leading manufacturing jewellers of New York. The nickel ore exhibits were mentioned as being higher in grade than any other shown at the Fair. Canadian copper also obtained a flattering award; and the fine exhibit of anthracite and bituminous coal from all the mines in the North-West Territories, now being worked, attracted a great deal of interest.

Machinery. The machinery exhibit was a small one, but almost every exhibit took a prize, 43 gold medals and diplomas falling to the Dominion. Professor Thurston, chairman of the jurors, and consulting mechanical engineer to the Exposition, stated, in an address, that in design, finish, and smoothness of working the general machinery shown by Canada was equal to anything shown; and that, as compared with the exhibit made in 1876 at Philadelphia, Canada had made greater relative progress in manufacturing, since that time, than any other nation taking part in the Exhibition.

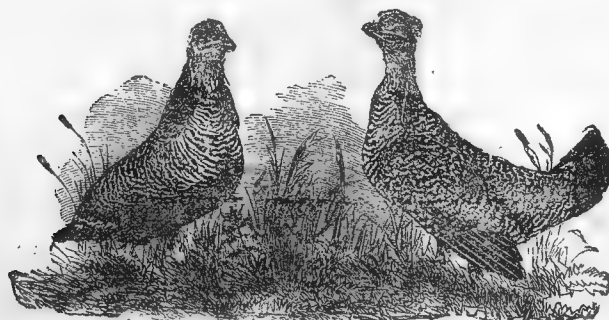
Transportation. In this department Canada obtained 30 medals and diplomas. The Canadian Pacific Railway train was referred to as the finest and most complete on exhibition, which reflects great credit on the position manufacturing enterprise has reached in Canada.

Manufactures. The great development in the industries of the Dominion is illustrated very aptly by the following return, taken from the census of 1891:—

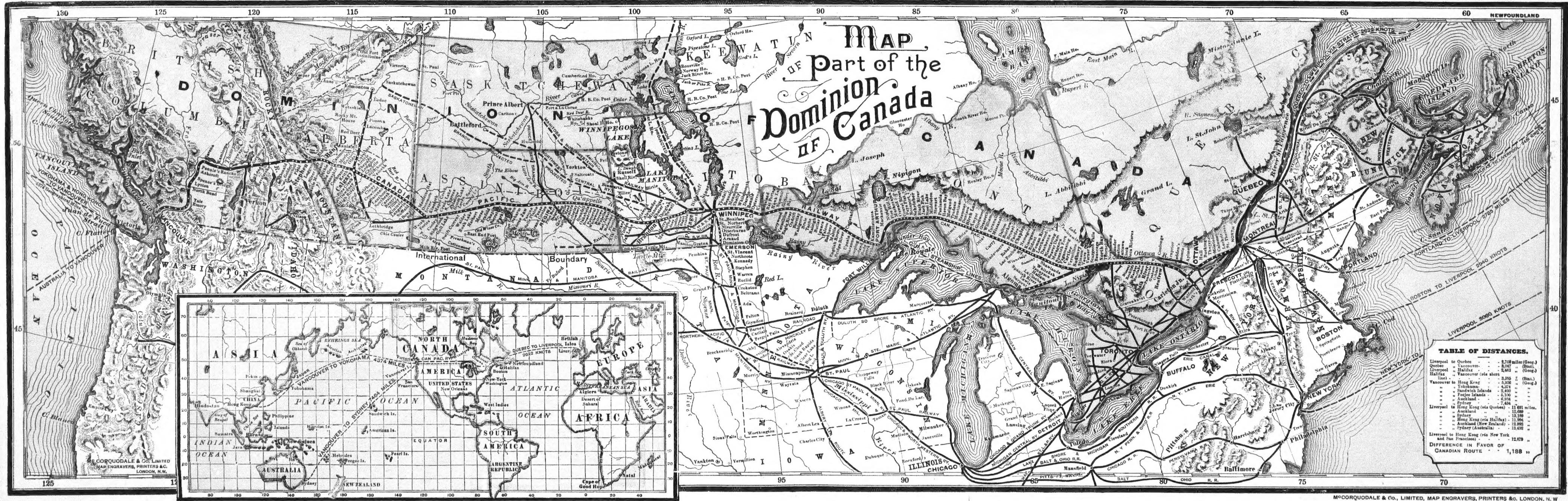
	1881.	1891.	Increase.	Per Cent.
Number of establishments ...	49,923	75,768	25,845	51·8
Capital invested ...	\$165,302,623	\$353,836,817	\$188,534,194	114·0
Number of employes ...	254,935	367,865	112,930	44·43
Wages paid ...	\$59,429,002	\$99,762,441	\$40,333,439	67·86
Cost of raw material ...	\$179,918,593	\$255,983,219	\$76,064,626	42·3
Value of products ...	\$309,676,068	\$475,445,705	\$165,769,637	53·5

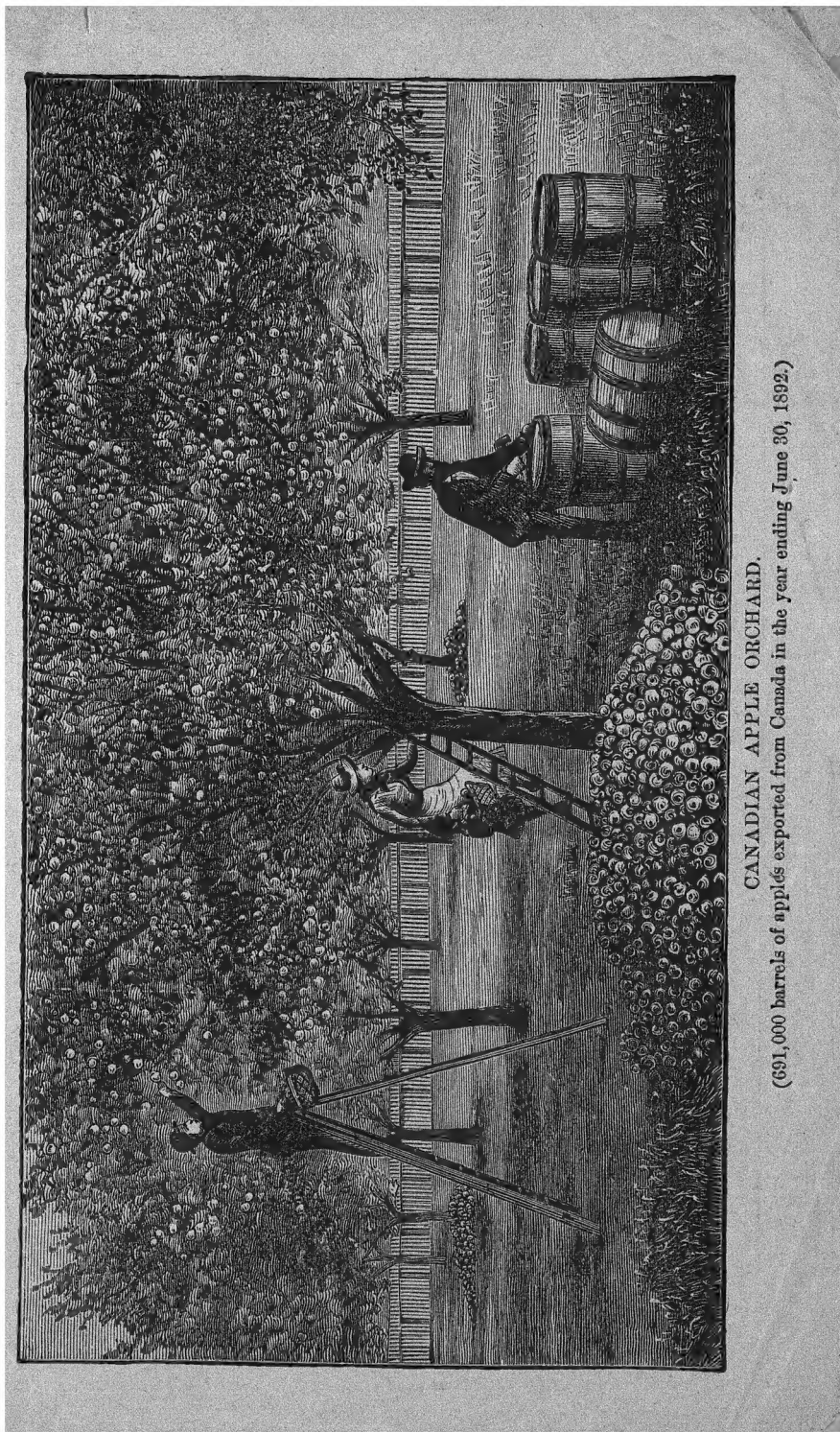
Canada had a most interesting exhibit of manufactures, which secured 124 awards, and drew an appreciative statement from the president of the jurors on textiles—a member of the Austrian Commission, and himself a manufacturer of high-grade cloths in Austria—to the effect that the progress made by textile manufacturers in Canada had been more rapid during the last five years than that of any other country showing industrial products. It will be remembered by many readers of these pamphlets that Canada's display of manufactured articles at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition in 1886 attracted much attention.

The educational system of the Dominion has a world-wide reputation, and the exhibits in that department were naturally, therefore, an object of sustained interest throughout the course of the Exhibition. 191 awards were obtained by Canada. No better evidence of the excellence of the display can be had than that in a section supposed to be the smallest among the Canadian exhibits, such a large number of awards should have been secured.



PRAIRIE CHICKENS.





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